



HOWNIIKAN

Aptebbongises / December 2015

2016 Tribal Election Notice



Election filing deadline for 2016 Tribal legislative seats is January 13, 2016

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Wadasé Update: December 2015



Two months after her last visit Wadasé returns to the aviary.

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Traditional winter tales offer opportunity to teach culture and history



Bourbonnais Cabin in the winter.

With the Halloween decorations down and the feasting season ahead, Potawatomi are dusting off the fabled winter stories that are only to be told when the air is crisp and the young ones hold out a realistic hope for a snow day.

“Winter stories tend to be more of those we’d think of as morality tales,” explained Kelli Mosteller, director of the CPN Cultural Heritage Center. “Every culture has some sort of story or stories enforcing social norms, like Grimm’s Fairy Tales.”

Mosteller explained that the point of such stories is to show that there are consequences for those who don’t adhere to the rules and practices of their respective communities. Whether the characters were traipsing through the dark, forbidding forests of the Grimm’s nineteenth century Germany or Nanabozho creating chaos in the Great Lakes region as told by pre-contact Potawatomi, the point was to drive home the notion that there were consequences to impetuous actions which could negatively impact the wider community.

Most of the Potawatomi winter tales involve Nanabozho or Wiske, who is a trickster character, usually in the shape of a man with rabbit ears. Culturally, the stories were told in the winter months because the long, snow covered season was when the Potawatomi believed the earth and spirits are asleep, leaving little risk of awakening those mischievous entities that might hear their name spoken.

“Practically, what are you doing in the winter? You’re in your lodge or wigwam, it’s cold outside and you’re

stuck inside together. Many times it was the grandparents telling the stories to their grandchildren,” explained Mosteller.

Many Potawatomi tales, whether winter stories or not, were practical learning tools to teach younger generations about how and why the world worked. Mosteller cites stories like “Why the bear has a short tail” as a perfect example that would have applied to Potawatomi living in the Great Lakes region.

The removal period, which began for the ancestors of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation around 1832, had a devastating impact on cultural teachings like the winter stories. Moving from the woodland regions surrounding the Great Lakes, where snow covered landscapes are the winter norm, to Kansas and eventually Indian Territory, entirely changed the efficacy of the stories told for centuries by Potawatomi.

While snow and winter aren’t unheard of in the Great Plains, the regions in which the post-removal Potawatomi in Kansas and Oklahoma found themselves were a far cry from the forests and lakes their ancestors inhabited.

Even the inhabitants of those lands are different. Otters, elk and other animals, many of whom are integral characters in Potawatomi tales, simply didn’t exist.

Said Mosteller, “The environment surrounding you is different. People around you don’t know what you mean when you tell the story of ‘The Underwater Panther’ when you’re in Kansas and the only water around is

the Kansas River, which would hardly be a tributary where we originally came from. Essentially, you’ve lost your touchstone for a younger generation.”

The practical implications of the removals on traditional stories are evident in the loss of identity with clans in the Citizen Potawatomi community.

“Half of our clan animals, we don’t have anymore,” stated Mosteller. “Physical removal, when you change your environment, when you change peoples’ understanding of the world, means that some of these stories don’t make sense anymore.”

The rebirth of the Potawatomi language and other cultural traditions like naming ceremonies, efforts by Tribal members and programs are making inroads at reinvigorating the winter tales vitality in new traditions. February 2016 will mark the third annual CPN Winter Storytelling Festival, led by the CPN Language Department. Attendees at previous years’ events see many tales told by students from the CPN Child Development Center, echoing a passage of cultural tales from generations that previously took place in a crowded lodge.

“Anything involving Wiske or Nanabozho can be a winter story,” said CPN Language Department Director Justin Neely of his department’s story telling event. “The key is for folks to learn these stories, tell them to their children each year during the winter, and keep that tradition going. It’s how we keep our culture alive.”

Healing to wellness drug court aims to help those recovering from substance abuse

CPN District Court Judge Phil Lujan loves to garden, though he admits he doesn't get to it as much as he used to. He says the methodical tilling and planting that are part of the growing process are especially cathartic to someone in a profession where black and white distinctions aren't often clearly defined.

"We all work in such abstract jobs," said Judge Lujan to a room of CPN Tribal Court and FireLodge Children and Family Services staff members during a recent grant meeting to discuss a new drug court program. "There are so many things that we do as a court and in our social services programs that makes me wonder if we are making progress. This Healing to Wellness Court Program is one of those things that actually lets us see our progress."

The Tribe has had a Healing to Wellness Court since April 2014. Currently, it can serve three participants per day. With the latest grant funding of more than \$343,000 from the Department of Justice, that daily capacity will increase to 12 participants per day.

According to Lujan, the drug court program has a success rate of just more than fifty percent.

"Step-by-step, you can see a person's life get better," he said.

More importantly, given the interconnected nature of the Tribe and its role as a social service provider, the court will be open to all citizens living in the Tribal jurisdiction which largely encompasses Pottawatomie County, Oklahoma. Allowing non-Natives the opportunity to participate in the program will relieve some of the congestion in the Pottawatomie County Drug Court, with the CPN program costing approximately half for each participant.

"CPN believes we can make lasting differences and improve the community by strengthening one participant and family at a time," said Vickie Canfield, who is in charge of overseeing the grant funds for the court.

Participants will be enrolled in the program for a minimum of 15 months and a maximum of 25 months. They will have to be at least 18 years old, non-violent offenders who are high-risk, high-need substance abusers. The court program will evaluate participants' progress through the American University drug court database. Data will continue to be collected on program participants after their completion



The Healing to Wellness Drug Court will be open to a larger number of participants thanks to a grant funding increase.

of the health to wellness court cycle for one year to help gauge success and recidivism rates.

As part of the grant, Oklahoma Indian Legal Services attorneys will provide two hours of time per week to attend meetings and hearings for the court, while a doctor trained in treating substance abusers will offer medical counseling.

In all, the Healing to Wellness Court aims to treat 36 participants during the three year grant with an overall goal of improving the individuals, families and communities that ultimately bear the brunt of substance abuse.

To learn more about the CPN Tribal Court's Healing to Wellness Drug Court, please call (405) 878-4844.

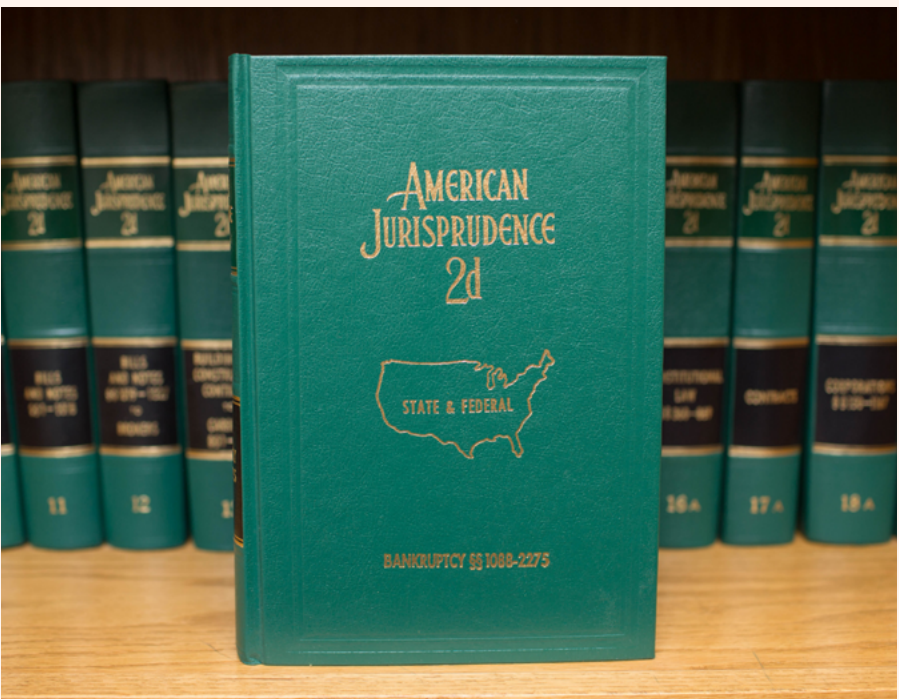
Tribal court improvement grant will upgrade CPN District Court services

The need for court staff and officials to be aware of the latest advances in legal and technological practices when running a court is imperative for those who are subject to its rulings. Thanks in part to a grant worth \$100,000 a year from the Administration for Children and Families, the CPN Tribal Court is on its way to keeping the court on the forefront of these advances.

"This grant was a longshot," explained Vickie Canfield, who oversees the grant for the court. "This was the first year this specific program grant was available, and we were one of 10 courts that qualified. It was very competitive."

The grant provides funding for six sessions of cross training in the latest tribal court best practices. Specifically, Tribal court officials, Indian Child Welfare and foster care staff will be cross trained on one another's professional responsibilities, a necessity for a court with limited human resources and an always busy caseload.

"We talk about these tribal court



The tribal court improvement grant will provide for the digitization of a number of legal documents.

training programs that the Oklahoma-based officials and California-based officials often pass each other in the skies as they head to the other place. These funds will give us the opportunity to get in the same room to hear from each other and learn together," said CPN District

Court Judge Phillip Lujan.

As part of this overhaul, the Tribal court will also digitize many of its court documents.

"Often times, we'll have a request for paperwork that we as court staff have to copy, mail off and follow up

to make sure it arrived by postal service. This grant helps us fund the digitization efforts, and by the end of the process, we'll have many of our documents online for them to be downloaded," Canfield explained.

Upgrades to the court's database will include updating the court's Juvenile Tribal Codes, the creation of a working file for court official's professional development records and digitization of court documents. An evaluation board will also be formed, whose purpose will be to examine and determine more efficient procedures in the day-to-day business of the district court.

The Citizen Potawatomi Nation Tribal Court handles civil, criminal, Indian Child Welfare matters and juvenile matters. The Court provides forms to assist pro se petitions for many civil actions, such as divorce and guardianships and issues marriage licenses. To learn more about the court, please visit www.potawatomi.org/government/judicial or call 405-878-4244.

Red Earth Art Center welcomes new tradition with first Treefest exhibit

The Red Earth Art Center will celebrate the Christmas season with a decidedly Native twist this year. A new holiday tradition starts this season when the month-long Red Earth Treefest opens free to the public December 1 at the Red Earth Art Center in downtown Oklahoma City. The first Red Earth Treefest features Christmas trees adorned with handmade ornaments created to highlight the diverse Native cultures that make Oklahoma unique.

Red Earth has invited five Oklahoma tribes to participate in this inaugural holiday event by creating handmade ornaments that showcase their distinctive cultures. Representatives of the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes, Chickasaw Nation, Citizen Potawatomi Nation, Comanche Nation and Osage Nation have been hard at work for several months creating handmade ornaments for their trees. Their creations will be showcased on six-foot trees featured at the Red Earth Art Center. Red Earth has plans to invite additional tribes to participate with their own tribal Christmas trees in subsequent years.

Additional Christmas Trees featured at the Red Earth Art Center include the Red Earth Docent Tree with handmade ornaments including



CPN tribal employees put together Potawatomi themed ornaments for the first annual Red Earth museum Christmas tree festival.

beaded corn, dreamcatchers, mini tipis, drums and parfleche bags; and an Artist Stocking Tree with stockings decorated by Oklahoma Native artists and available for sale to the public. Each tribal Christmas tree featured in Red Earth Treefest includes complete descriptions of the handmade ornaments adorning the tree.

“Before we relocated to downtown Oklahoma City in 2010, Red Earth was located for over 30 years at the Kirkpatrick Center Museum Complex (now known as Science Museum Oklahoma),” said Leslie Blair, president of the Red Earth Board of Directors. “One of the most popular annual events we participated in while at the Kirkpatrick Center was

their Holiday Treefest. By presenting our new version of Treefest, we hope to carry on the tradition of featuring Christmas Trees adorned with beautiful ornaments representing different cultures.”

The Red Earth Art Center is open free to the public Monday through Friday at 6 Santa Fe Plaza next to the historic Skirvin Hilton Hotel in downtown Oklahoma City. Visit www.RedEarth.org or call (405) 427-5228 for additional information. Red Earth, Inc. is a non-profit organization with a mission to promote the rich traditions of American Indian arts and cultures through education, a premier festival, a museum and fine art markets.

VISIT US ONLINE!



CITIZENPOTAWATOMINATION



@C_P_N



CPN HOWNIKAN

Congratulations

December 2015 graduates!



James B. Webb
Gainesville, Texas
Family: Little
North Texas Central College
Associates of Applied Science

Meliah Macon
Vidor, Texas
Texas State University - San Marcos
BA in Mass Communication

Ethan Mac Trammel
Silver Lake, Kansas
Family: DeGraff/Navarre
Washburn University
BS in Nursing

Tyler Weaver
Weatherford, Texas
Family: Peltier
Tarleton State University
BA in History

Kelsey Songstad
Waxahachie, Texas
Family: Alford
Texas Womans University
BA in Business Administration

Carl L Ziegler Jr
Chattanooga, Tennessee
Family: Mtegmesh
Carson-Newman University
MA in Education

Breeanna Cloud Hamilton
Pomona, California
Family: Johnson/Vieux
California State University
BA in Fine Art

Ginger Johnson
Seminole, Oklahoma
Family: Tescier
St. Gregory's University
BS in Business Administration

Brandon Nelson
San Diego, California
Family: Ogee
Orthopedic Residence
Physician Assistant

Adam Edward LeClair Shareghi
Corvallis, Oregon
Family: LeClair
Oregon State University
BS in Chemical Engineering

Ashley Shurley
Denver, Colorado
Family: Anderson
University of Colorado
College of Nursing
MS in Nursing

Jordan Seward
Broken Arrow, Oklahoma
Family: Peltier
University of Oklahoma
BS in Petroleum Engineering

Preston Stovall
Bozeman, Montana
Family: Toupin
University of Pittsburgh
Ph.D. in Philosophy

Cody W. McPherson
Drummond, Oklahoma
Family: Ferguson
Oklahoma State University
BS in Career & Technical Education



*Rudolph msko janet seksi.
Kyetnam wastene jash
Nash ndo-wabma.
Kyetnam wiske she ked wik
Jayek gi anet seksiyuk.
Jak gego gi zhemawan
Cho gay dagwenmasiwan, ewi chikaswat sek sik
Ngo dek egi wensiwek Santa egi bye ked ot
Rudolph ewastek I jash da niga ne bedo nigan yak
Egi dagwenmawat
Egi papashkwewat
Eje widmo wat Rudolph nigane ji igwan
Rudolph nigan ji igwan
Rudolph nigan ji igwan*

Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer in Potawatomi

Visit cpn.news/rudolph to see the
CPN daycare kids sing this song.

Book offers glimpse at the “Gathering of Potawatomi Nations”

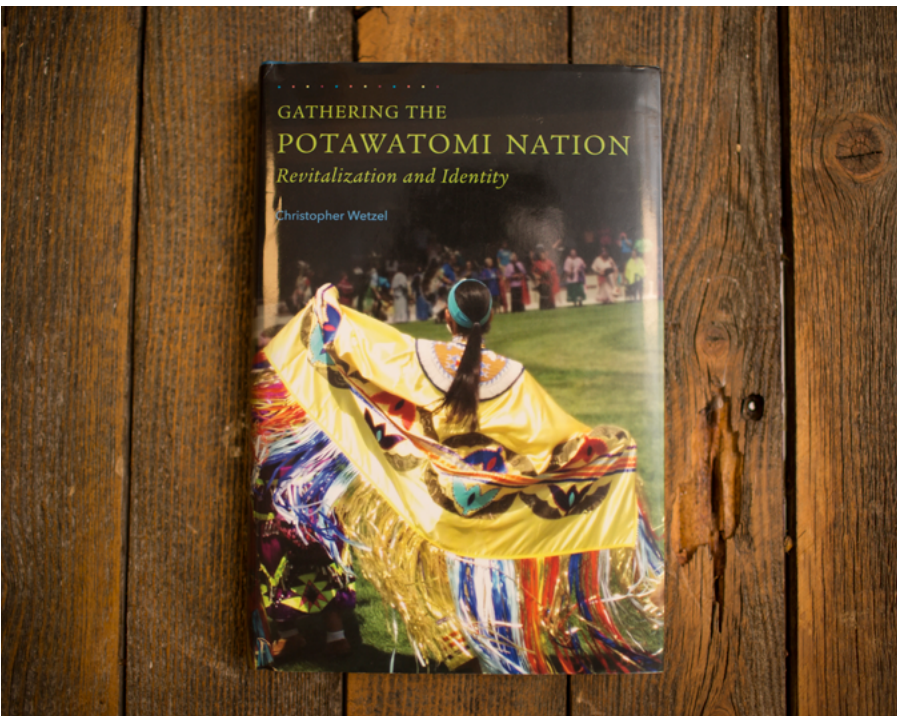
Author Christopher Wetzel knows a lot about the Potawatomi Gathering of Nations. Attending 12 of the last 13 Gatherings, including three Family Reunion Festivals in Shawnee, Wetzel estimates that he may have been to around 30 tribal powwows and events in more than a decade of observing Potawatomi culture. His recently published book, “Gathering the Potawatomi Nation: Revitalization and Identity,” has been making the rounds amongst the various bands spread across the U.S. and Canada.

Wetzel started the book in 2001 as a graduate student at the University of California Berkley. He had conducted research on land seizure activism, focusing on incidents like the 1969-71 Occupation of Alcatraz. Following an urge to return closer to home in the Midwest, Wetzel was introduced to two Potawatomi, one from the Prairie Band in Kansas and another from the Citizen Potawatomi Nation.

“When I met them they told me about the Gathering, this interesting event that Potawatomi people were doing. They told me if I was interested, I should visit it and look at what was happening there.”

Wetzel began researching the event and histories surrounding the various Potawatomi bands, and soon realized that contemporary written sources weren’t readily available. The absence of those resources led him to reach out to each band and ask permission to visit their communities and document life and culture.

“I have to say from spending 2002 to 2013 out in communities and revising it and working on it, it was really the more recent things that became more compelling that people were more excited about in the communities,” said Wetzel.



Gathering the Potawatomi Nation Revitalization and Identity by Christopher Wetzel.

Wetzel says the book tries to answer three questions; what does it mean to be a nation in contemporary cultural context? Why the Potawatomi? And what has been happening on the ground in each community?

Asked if he noticed any similarities across the Potawatomi bands, which stretch from Canada to Oklahoma, Wetzel admits he stole his answer from an old McDonald’s commercial, saying one commonality seems to be “food, folks and fun!”

Wherever he went in Potawatomi country, the common theme was family, whether telling stories of ancestors and parents, friends from other bands or the relationships they’d established with fellow Potawatomi.

“When you sit down and share meals with people and drink coffee with them, you get that sense that they have things they care about, that matter to

them in their lives and that sometimes we don’t get to see in conventional academic texts related to indigenous communities.”

In more than a decade visiting Potawatomi around North America, Wetzel said that one of the biggest surprises to him was the feeling of interconnectedness by family ties amongst the different bands. He explained that he would often speak with members of one band about happenings in another, often finding that the news had already trickled in ahead of his visit.

“Everyone has a cousin somewhere. That shouldn’t surprise me, but man is that true! Regardless if you’re sitting in Shawnee, Oklahoma or Wilson, Michigan or Perry Sound in Ontario, it’s the closeness of how all these connections are.”

Part of that Potawatomi networking ability may also be a unique factor.

Wetzel observed that when speaking with members of non-Potawatomi tribes, there is often a sense of awe at the bands’ ability to collaborate on an annual gathering, language revitalization and other cultural ties.

“I really think there is something very unique about the leadership across all of these communities that has kind of made this family collaboration and cooperation possible.”

Now published, Wetzel hopes the book would share the spirit of several experiences he had across 13 years of speaking with Potawatomi.

“People would tell me stories and make it clear that they were sharing things with me that aren’t supposed to be written. There’s some knowledge that is not meant to be in that kind of venue. But they offered these stories to me to provide some context to things that I would write in the academic record. My hope is that the book is able to capture a little bit of that spirit, of what people have been up to and what has been valuable to communities in the last thirty years.”

Looking forward, Wetzel isn’t sure where his next project will come from. The Massachusetts-based writer says he is interested in the tribal-state relationship between the peoples of that state, specifically on how the state government interacts with Native Americans living in their long-time communities and those in large, urban areas.

To learn more about Christopher Wetzel, who is an associate professor of sociology at Stonehill College in Massachusetts, visit www.stonehill.edu/directory/christopher-wetzel/. “Gathering the Potawatomi Nation: Revitalization and Identity” can be purchased at the University of Oklahoma Press.

Autumn at the CPN Community Garden

After a wet summer and three different floods to the grounds at the Eagle Aviary, the CPN Community Garden is now fully back to normal production. The only plant to survive the torrential rainfall was the okra, which is aptly named, “three flood okra.” Now the garden is abundant with an array of fall produce including squash, pumpkins and peppers.

“The garden had some setbacks during the summer and almost everything washed out,” said CPN Cultural Heritage Center Director Kelli Mosteller, Ph.D. “We planted the garden late this season and planted everything from seed. Our idea was to stick with plants that would last through the first frost such as squash and pumpkins because weather can unexpectedly be harsh in Oklahoma. However, we also planted vegetables that can be harvested on a regular basis like Swiss chard, butter lettuce and other leafy greens that grow plentiful.”

The CPN Community Garden didn’t have a wide variety of plants this season, but what was planted did well. The food harvested goes to the volunteers who tend the garden and gets passed out to different departments including the Title VI program for the daily elder lunch.

“Whether its tribal youth or elders out there, the main goal is to bring everyone together and share time with each other outdoors,” said Mosteller. “The main purpose of the garden is community, but secondly it’s a way for us to talk about foods that serves as a cultural culinary learning experience for everyone.”

Mosteller and other community garden organizers have big plans for the spring garden. Over the winter the garden will be plowed and covered up to help keep nutrients in the soil. Garden volunteers are hoping to expand the garden with a section dedicated to wild berries. Along with that the group is researching different vegeta-



The okra is the only plant that survived from the three floods that devastated the garden in May 2015.

tion to plant for butterflies and bees. The CPN Office of Environmental Health is planning to make different culverts around the garden to create a path for the rain water to drain away from it to avoid flooding in the future.

Volunteers meet each Wednesday from 4 - 6 p.m. to harvest and tend the garden. For more information search for their Facebook page, [Gtegemem: CPN Community Garden](https://www.facebook.com/Gtegemem-CPN-Community-Garden/).

College-bound Potawatomi have direct contact with new higher education coordinator

By Tesia Zientek,
CPN Higher Education Coordinator

If you've got college all figured out, congratulations! You're a member of an elite, lonely club. For the rest of us, college is like the Internet: we know it's important, but if we have to explain the nuts and bolts of how it works, we get a little lost in the details. Figuring out how to become a competitive college applicant, finding the right school, completing the application process and piecing together enough financial aid to pay for it can be mystifying. That's where my new position as the Citizen Potawatomi Nation higher education coordinator comes in.

As a young Potawatomi growing up in Oklahoma, I knew that I wanted to attend an out-of-state college. Although my mother hated the idea of me leaving, she supported my dream on one condition: I get enough scholarships to pay for it. Without quite knowing if what I was doing would work, I took the ACT enough times to get a respectable score, applied to a few schools that sounded interesting and pursued every scholarship that I could find. To my surprise, my first choice, the University of Notre Dame, accepted me. Even more importantly, their need-based financial aid and the Gates Millennium Scholarship made it possible for me to attend practically free.

During college, I learned several tricks that would have made my college pursuit process so much simpler. Had I known this valuable information, I could have used free prep materials to study for the ACT, gotten my application fees waived or attended any number of pre-college summer camps. It became my passion to share these tips with younger students, and I eventually attended Stanford University for my Master's in Education Policy to learn more about how to help Native students succeed in college.

According to the College Horizons nonprofit organization, only 51 percent of Native Americans graduate from high school, and of those, only around five percent go to four-year colleges. Ultimately, only 10 percent of those students graduate in four years.

I think we can do better by our Native students, and I would love to see the CPN set a positive example for student support.

Luckily, our Tribal leadership supports this vision. As higher education coordinator, I will help college-bound CPN students in search of individualized college advice, scholarship help or internship information, regardless of age or location. I am also the point of contact for the new scholarship partnership be-



Tesia Zientek

tween St. Gregory's University and the CPN. Throughout the year, I will contribute to the *Hownikan* with college advice or information, so please be on the lookout for those articles.

For now, though, if you find any

step of your college pursuit bewildering, I'm here to help however I can. Please feel free to email me at tesia.zientek@potawatomi.org, call me at 405-275-3121 or visit www.potawatomi.org/services/education.



CITIZEN POTAWATOMI NATION ST. GREGORY'S UNIVERSITY SCHOLARSHIP

IS THIS OPPORTUNITY RIGHT FOR YOU?

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WHICH DEGREE OPTION IS BEST FOR YOU?

Several degree options are funded by this scholarship. Whether you have previous college credit or are just starting out, you should meet with a CPN or SGU representative to determine which degree option is best for you.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON THE CPN AND SGU SCHOLARSHIP, VISIT

WWW.POTAWATOMI.ORG/IMAGES/SGU-CPN-DIGITAL.JPG

APPLICATION PROCESS

Once you've decided that St. Gregory's University is the right opportunity for you, then you will proceed to the application process.



Sorting through the trash for a better tomorrow

The event may not have had a pretty name, but it was serious business at the Grand Casino Hotel Resort as the Citizen Potawatomi Nation hosted a tribal waste characterization training program in conjunction with the EPA. Organized through the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency’s Region 6 Office, which oversees the states of Arkansas, Louisiana, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Texas and 66 Tribal Nations, environmental professionals from across the region met at the Grand to sort through the trash.

“The training is important for a lot of professionals in our field, as we received a number of helpful updates on how best to conduct a waste assessment. A lot of people think it is just sorting through the trash, but it’s about knowing what materials can be disposed of properly and at the lowest cost to an organization’s budget,” said CPN Tribal Energy and Sustainability Specialist Tara Hammer.

The trainings, which are free, provide a base for environmental professionals from a wide range of organizations to learn how to best assess the type of waste materials produced



CPN Tribal Energy and Sustainability Specialist Tara Hammer participated in a waste sorting exercise at the Grand Casino.

in their respective communities. By learning how to identify and ultimately dispose of these waste products, from office supplies to household trash materials, communities are better able to develop their own waste management plans.

Knowing the types and amounts of the materials and waste your com-

munity is generating, you can better evaluate waste management options and identify opportunities for cost savings,” wrote Roger Hancock, Tribal Solid Waste Coordinator for EPA’s Region 6.

The training session at the Grand Casino took place with a half day of classroom sessions where attendees

learned about the strengths and limitations of different types of waste assessments and the best practices to implement when proceeding through an actual waste sort. This also included a ‘how to’ session on the best way to implement proper safety considerations, as there are occasionally situation where hazardous or other possibly dangerous materials are improperly disposed of.

The training ended with everyone heading out into a bright, warm Oklahoma fall day and conducting a practice waste assessment. Participants literally got their hands dirty, or at least their leather lined gloves, identifying and sorting through materials that they would see back in their respective communities.

To learn more about CPN’s Department of Environmental Health’s work, visit cpn.news/OEH. To learn more about the EPA Region 6’s tribal training programs, visit cpn.news/EPA1512.

FireLake Discount Foods takes the cake in national contest

FireLake Discount Foods was awarded \$2,500 for its third place finish in a national display contest. The contest was created by Café Valley, nationwide bakery distributor which produces high quality cakes, muffins and croissants for stores throughout the world.

“I came here to present FireLake Discount Foods the check for their outstanding display,” said Central Regional Sales Manager for Café

said FireLake Discount Foods store manager Mike Lester. “A lot of ideas were discussed and we ended up building a castle.”

The castle display was constructed over three days and was made using Café Valley’s Soda Pop Cakes and 12-pack cases of A&W Root Beer, Orange Crush, Grape Crush and 7UP, which are the different flavors Café Valley’s uses for their unique soda pop cakes.



The castle display was constructed out of cakes and pop in three days.

Valley, Stacy Seaba. “Winning third place is a huge accomplishment considering the contest had more than 300 displays submitted from 30 different states. It’s a great contest that adds value to the stores and Firelake Discount Foods did an outstanding job with theirs.”

The overall Grand Prize winner was Cooke’s Market in Cleveland, Tennessee and second place went to Houchens IGA in Princeton, Indiana.

“We had a group of employee’s get together with some of the soda vendors and they started brainstorming what display we wanted to create,”

“It meant a lot to us to enter a competition that’s nationwide,” said Lester. “Affiliated Foods, who is the vendor for the cakes gave us a lot of support and Dr Pepper Snapple Group supplied the pops for the display, which took it over the top.”

Lester continued, “it was an honor to win a national award that was not a only representation of what we’re doing at the store level but also the partnership we have with our vendors.”

Please visit [Café Valley Bakery’s Facebook page](http://Café Valley Bakery's Facebook page) to see the award winning displays.

VOCATIONAL
REHABILITATION PROGRAM

Iowa Tribe of Oklahoma

ARE YOU LOOKING FOR A JOB
AND HAVE A DISABILITY?

SERVICES WE CAN PROVIDE

- Medical and psychological evaluations
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ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

- Must be enrolled in a federally recognized tribe (have a CDIB) and reside within our service area.
- Must have a physical or mental disability documented by a physician.
- Disability must be impediment to employment
- Must be able to benefit from VR services, resulting in obtaining/retaining competitive employment or enhancing current employment

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Email Christa Tsotaddle, Transitional
Counselor at ctsotaddle@iowanation.org

Find us on the web at www.bahkhoje.com

CPN-American Red Cross shelter program plants seeds for security during storm season

In May 2013, a series of deadly tornadoes ripped through parts of Oklahoma leaving behind paths of destruction in their wake. The Citizen Potawatomi Nation was hit hard. Steelman Estates, a trailer park lying inside the Tribal jurisdiction approximately one mile south of the Grand Casino Hotel Resort took a direct hit, with numerous injuries and two deaths from one tornado. Other areas like Pink and Little Axe, home to Tribal members and employees alike, also suffered damage from the twisters.

In an effort to mitigate the impact of the most extreme kinds of severe weather that are all too common in Oklahoma, Citizen Potawatomi Nation partnered with the American Red Cross to fund a limited number of residential storm shelters for Tribal members, residing in Oklahoma, Cleveland and Pottawatomie counties.

“As the emergency manager for the Nation, one of my responsibilities is to mitigate hazards to the resources of the Nation, including cultural resources. One of our greatest resources are our elders, and I am very happy we were able to help them gain



Cynthia Davis with her newly installed storm shelter, which was provided through a partnership between the American Red Cross Serving Oklahoma and CPN.

security from the storms,” said Tim Zientek. “We were very fortunate to have such a great relationship with our American Red Cross partner.”

Harrah, Oklahoma resident and Tribal member Cynthia Davis read about the program in the *Hownikan* and saw an opportunity to gain a sense of security that Oklahoma spring weather often denied her.

“I was very happy about it, because of the storm damage we’d received in the past,” said Davis as she stood outside of her home in rural Harrah. “We live on a fixed income, me and my husband. We’ve both been retired for a couple years and had never been able to afford a storm shelter, so it was awesome that they were able to help us out.”

After filling out the application, Davis was contacted by CPN Tribal employee Kelley Francen, who was then in charge of the storm shelter grant program’s administration. The program provided a FEMA-approved shelter and installation assistance funds for the storm shelters which were constructed and installed by TornadoSafe, a company based out of Oklahoma City.

“It was awesome. We spoke with Kelley and then TornadoSafe called us. They came out and were really professional and put it in. It was as easy as it could be. It gave us a big sense of security that it’s here. We may never need it, but just in case we do.”

Though the funding was exhausted quickly by selected applicants, the program’s success shows with stories like Davis’.

“I just feel like it was great to have the CPN partner with the American Red Cross to help people. I was fortunate to get on the list and get the security of having a storm shelter, something I’ve wanted forever.”



CPN HOUSING PROGRAMS



Down Payment & Closing Cost Assistance Grant is a one-time-only grant for Native Americans, with priority given to CPN tribal members. All CPN tribal members residing in the United States may apply. Other Native American applicants must live within the tribal jurisdiction, must be age 60 or older, and within the 80 percent National Median Income Limit. We highly encourage the use of the tribally owned bank, First National Bank & Trust Co. (FNB) in Shawnee for your financing if applicable. The maximum grant is \$2,125. Mobile homes are not eligible for this grant. Applications must be submitted at least three weeks prior to closing or no later than 30 days after the closing date. Applications received after the 30-day limit will not be considered.

New Home Construction enables CPN tribal members to construct a new home in certain areas located within the tribal jurisdiction with a \$20,000 buy-down grant to be applied to the construction cost of the home. Each applicant must meet the 80 percent National Median Income Limit guidelines, and are required to mortgage through FNB. The land must meet HUD environmental requirements, and an Indian Preference Contractor must be used to build the home.

Acquisition Program enables CPN tribal members to choose and purchase existing homes from the CPNHA inventory. Each applicant must meet the 80 percent National Median Income Limit guidelines, and are required to mortgage through FNB. Each approved borrower is eligible for up to a \$20,000 buy-down grant to be applied to the purchase price of the home.

Affordable Rent units are available to Native American elders at the Citizen Potawatomi Nation Elder Village in Rossville, KS, Father Murphy complex, and families at the Citizen Place North duplexes in Tecumseh, OK with priority given to CPN tribal members. The applicant’s annual income must be within 80 percent of the National Median Income Limits.

Emergency Home Repair Loan is available to all low-income Native Americans, with priority given to CPN tribal members within the CPN jurisdiction. Other Native American applicants are restricted to living within the tribal jurisdiction and must be age 60 or older. All applicants must meet the 80 percent National Median Income Limit guidelines. This loan program provides emergency repair funds of a minimum of \$1,000 and no greater than \$5,000. The home must meet all HUD environmental criteria and must be built after 1978 to qualify. Mobile homes are not eligible for this loan program. Applicants are required to submit a deed to the property, as a mortgage agreement for the amount of the loan will be recorded, which will be released at the time of loan payoff.

Elder Home Repair Program is available to make our elder’s single family homes safer and more efficient as their needs increase. This program is available to all elderly low-income Native Americans, with priority given to CPN tribal members. Each applicant must meet the 80 percent National Median Income Limit guidelines, and must reside within the tribal jurisdiction, or surrounding areas. Applicants are required to submit a deed to the property, as a mortgage agreement for the amount of the repair cost will be recorded. This mortgage is released at the end of the time specified with no expense to the homeowner.

Student Housing Assistance Program is available to CPN tribal members to assist with living expenses while pursuing higher education. Eligibility guidelines require that the student has received the Tribal Scholarship and be enrolled in a 4-year degree program, or continuing with a Master’s or PhD program, and take a minimum of 12 credit hours per semester. Funding is \$675.00 per semester and is available for spring and fall semesters only.

OUR OFFICE HOURS ARE FROM 8:00AM TO 5:00PM, MONDAY THROUGH FRIDAY. THE CONTACT NUMBER IS (405) 273-2833. WE LOOK FORWARD TO HEARING FROM YOU!

Tribe adds new leasing and tax coordinator position

In each stage of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation’s growth as an economic engine and employer, the Tribe has often tapped into assets currently used by one of the many Tribal departments or commercial enterprises. CPN’s ability to find the best person for the job, whether searching inside or outside its current roster of employees, is a testament to its diversity as an employer. In its current stage of growth with the progress on Iron Horse Industrial Park and the 2013 signing of the HEARTH Act, one Tribal employee has been appointed to a new role. Familiar to many around the CPN Tribal Administration building, long-time employee Kelley Francen has recently been appointed the Tribe’s new leasing and tax coordinator. The *Hownikan* spoke with Francen about her background, what brought her to work for the Tribe and what her new position will entail.

Where are you from originally?

“I was born in Vineland, New Jersey but I was actually raised in sunny California. My family moved to Chandler, Oklahoma when I was in junior high school. As one can imagine, coming from a large suburban area of Los Angeles to a small rural Oklahoma town was a bit of an adjustment. But I quickly settled in and Chandler soon became home.

“For the next 30 years I lived and worked in the small community; raising my children, establishing roots and lifetime friendships. I particularly enjoy the fact that not only did my children and I graduate from the same high school; we also had some of the same teachers. My daughter Nicole and I moved to Shawnee in 2012. She also works for the Tribe in the Child Development Center where my granddaughter attends.”

What did you do before you joined CPN?

“My first real job was working with

the county child welfare system. It was through that job that I realized I had a deep desire to want to help make things better for individuals. In 1986 I accepted a position with a small local private-non-profit organization administering federally funded job training programs. During my 20 years there, I had the honor of touching the lives of many people, assisting first time job seekers to high level professionals displaced from their jobs. I worked extensively with these individuals determining employment needs, identifying their areas of interest and assessing their abilities in order to match their talents to appropriate occupations. Much of the time they were at a significant turning point in their lives and were often at a loss as how to proceed. Through solid leadership and effective case management guidance, individuals were able to weave through obstacles and move forward.

“It was also during this time that I was given the opportunity to go to college. Working full time, raising three kids and going to school was not always easy. It took a great amount of commitment and dedication; ten years’ worth to be exact. Reminiscing of the sacrifices made along the way, I can easily say that graduating from the University of Central Oklahoma is my greatest achievement. I have a BS in Training and Development, which is a blend of adult education and human relations.”

How did you end up as a CPN employee?

“After 20 years with the private non-profit, the company made the difficult decision to dissolve. Richard Brown, CPN HR director and longtime personal friend, was instrumental in bringing me on board. He previously worked for the Oklahoma State Employment Service and we had become acquainted through various workgroups and committees.

“In 2006, the Tribe was gearing up

to open the Grand Casino and was hiring additional HR recruiters and I was hired, eventually becoming training manager where I focused on the creation of a three-tiered leadership and management program. I also created and implemented an employee development program to provide intensive one-on-one instruction to front-line employees with the desire to increase their employability skills.

“In 2012, I accepted the position of assistant director in the planning and economic development department. My focus was on building relationships with various business and trade developers, as well as marketing and promoting the tribes commerce, managing grants and tracking project expenses. One of the most personally rewarding grant projects was my involvement with the partnership with the American Red Cross. Through that grant, we were able to award nearly 100 storm shelters to families affected by the recent deadly storms that ripped through our area.”

Tell us a bit about your new position.

“Currently I am transitioning into a new position as a leasing and tax coordinator. With the recent passage of the HEARTH Act, the addition of leased enterprises has created the need for a coordinator to help moni-



Kelley Francen

tor financial transactions relating to leasing compliance.

“In this position, I will act as a liaison between the CPN and internal departments, outside agencies, tenants and vendors to coordinate financial transactions related to leases. In addition, I will operate as the tax coordinator for all enterprises, and work closely with accounting to ensure that tax collections are in compliance with CPN rules and regulations. This work is important because under the HEARTH Act, CPN can now leverage our assets to promote economic development and strengthen self-determination and tribal sovereignty by collecting the appropriate taxes under tribal statutes.”

Language with Justin: December 2015

By Justin Neely, Director of the CPN Language Department

Mno gishget Jesus ga nigit mine mno weponget.(Merry Christmas and Happy New Year from the CPN Language Department)

As always, it gets kind of busy around the holidays. Our new on-line ‘Beginner I’ self-paced language course met with great success. So far we have had over 245 students join and have had our first student to complete the course. *Gdo wiges!* Good job Beverly Barnhill!

If you haven’t had a chance to check out the course it’s at language.potawatomi.org. The course is free of cost and open to all students with a desire to learn our language. The course is designed with PowerPoint lessons which



Language materials that can be found at FireLake Gift Shop.

have been converted into videos, games such as interactive crossword puzzles, silly spoofs such as famous movie scenes, quizzes and tests, as well as cultural teachings. We focus on topics such as the importance of

the eagle, Potawatomi cosmology, the Seven Grandfather Teaching and the Seven Fires Prophecy. We recently converted most of our videos to streaming video which should speed the connectivity, especially for our

mobile users.

The course is designed so that you have to go in order, but has no start time and can be done at your own pace. By the time this article comes out we will have opened up ‘Beginner II’ which will be available once a student completes ‘Beginner I.’ We are also working on a kids course which we think the little ones will really enjoy. We hope to make this available after the first of the year.

We are also working with the youth in the child development center to do some Christmas songs for their annual Christmas program. This year we are doing Frosty the Snowman and Rudolph the Red Nosed Reindeer.

Have a safe and Merry Holiday from the the Citizen Potawatomi Language Department.

Osage Ballet, Scott George, perform for Pope

When the most recognizable religious authority in the world decides to visit, the pomp and circumstance involves hundreds of thousands of people. Amongst those attending the recent visit of Pope Francis were 30 members of the Osage Nation and Scott George, an Osage citizen and director of the CPN Housing Department. George, who is affiliated with the Osage Ballet, was asked to be part of a performance for the pontiff's visit to the City of Brotherly Love.

Director of the Osage Ballet, Randy Tinker Smith, reached out to George, who is the head singer for many Osage Nation powwows and festivals, as well as the Citizen Potawatomi Nation's powwow during the Family Reunion Festival, to help in create a ballet using many of the old songs sung by the Osage's ancestors.

"They used to say, with the Ponca on the West and the Delaware on the East, that they could hear the Osage singing in the mornings. They prayed in the morning, at noon and at night. That's how strong they were in that faith," George explained.

The ballet is a tale of the Osage people, documenting their removals to Oklahoma, the oil boom of the 1920s and other contemporary histories of the tribe.

"In our Osage culture, we pray before we do anything," said ballet director Tinker Smith. "It is an age old tradition from our elders who would pray before they put a seed in the ground, before a hunt, when naming children and during many other times during the day. Some elders remember hearing the singing and prayers of our people as the sun



Photo by Chalene Tohey of the Osage News.

would rise. We open our ballet with a morning prayer song to depict those pre-contact times. I felt it set a standard for our story as we used ballet to give an artistic description of some of our Osage history."

Upon hearing of Pope Francis' impending visit to the Festival of Families in Philadelphia, Tinker Smith sent off a video of the Osage ballet to the group organizing the visit. A portion of the ballet was chosen, and a bus load of 30 Osage singers, dancers and support staff loaded up on a charter bus for a 24-hour trek to Philadelphia.

"Scott is a well-respected singer for our Osage Nation," said Tinker Smith. "He put together a group of singers for our original ballet soundtrack and I appreciate him doing that for us. I wanted him to be with us at Festival of Families because he understands our ways and would represent our tribe well. It takes a lot of years, commitment and sacrifice to learn our songs and the

wisdom to understand how and when to present the songs in the right manner. Scott has dedicated himself to our people and is an Osage treasure."

The group had time for brief dress rehearsal, which took place an hour after their arrival, before turning up to the performance site early the next morning to sit through a pleasant, if not long Pennsylvania afternoon before their show began.

"Well we just hung out," joked George of the long wait before their performance. "We were out on an island, because there was so much security and confusion with the pope's arrival. It was amazing though, we got to see a group from Indonesia perform. One from India had 60 dancers going at once."

Just as the group was set to perform, George said that an audible roar began to envelop the street, and before long, the Popemobile was rolling down the road in front of the Osage performers and tens of thousands of

others. George even got a firsthand glimpse, standing just twenty feet from the pontiff as his vehicle made its way through the crowds.

Once he passed, the Osage took the stage, with George leading the singing. About halfway through the 15 minute performance, the roar of the crowd began again.

"We got to thinking 'Alright, we got ourselves a little bit of the audience,'" he said with a laugh. "Just then, the pope goes flying by again. He's just riding around!"

To give them access to the performance stage, the Osage ballet group was issued badges allowing them to travel in restricted areas. Wearing one of these, George, his wife and a member of the *Osage News* found themselves with an interesting spot to see mass celebrated.

"We were just wandering around near the main stage where the pope was, and on one side across from us was 500-1,000 priests, all dressed in white. I started looking around at who we were standing around, and I noticed that all the guys surrounding us were wearing sashes. I realized we were in the middle of a bunch of the Knights of Columbus and thought to myself, 'Man what are we doing here?'"

George said his one regret is the group not stopping to see the Carlisle Indian School while in Pennsylvania, but chalked the long trip up to a successful journey.

"My wife said it best; 'you could feel the atmosphere there, that everyone was there for one purpose,'" he said. "The bus ride was a killer, but it was definitely worth it."

Tyler Kline on regalia and powwow participation

Tyler Kline grew up travelling to powwows with his parents and grandparents to watch them participate in competitive dancing. His grandparents and parents were all competition dancers who often had a younger Kline in tow as they travelled the powwow circuit. Kline recalls how as they prepared for powwows, they put each item of their regalia on piece-by-piece, discussing the unique history behind each item. During these preparation times, Kline's grandfather would also discuss the basic moves they would perform in the arena.

The Tescier family descendant is a southern straight dancer who recently took up the activity, which he has not actively pursued since he was a child. Southern straight dancing resembles hunting or warring party and dancer's regalia consist of a ribbon shirt, tab leggings, aprons and a hair roach. Dancers also hold different objects while performing. Growing up in a family of competition powwow dancers, Kline was taught the tra-



Kline in his traditional regalia.

ditional way and chooses to carry a mirror board and fan while dancing.

For dancers, regalia is an extension of who they are. In practical terms, Kline's mirror board serves

as his eyes and directs him through the crowded dance arena. In more symbolic terms, as taught from his family, the mirror board keeps a dancer from looking forward and signifies looking back from where they've come.

In 2015, Kline travelled from El Paso, Texas to participate in the Potawatomi Leadership Program and decided to step out into the arena to compete in the Family Reunion Festival's dance competition. This year's Festival saw quite a few more dancers competing than previous years.

"It was really cool to compete and I was not only proud of myself but also at how many people were competing in the dance," said Kline. "I didn't place in the competition but I have plans to get there one day."

Next summer Kline is looking to work with his grandfather to improve his dancing, but does suggest for people who have never danced to get out into the arena and just try it.

"The best way to get comfortable in the dance arena and feel confident out there is to hold nothing back and just go for it," said Kline. "Talking to other dancers and elders can also help you out with technique and how to listen for the drum beat."

Kline doesn't plan on competition dancing around the powwow circuit anytime soon, but it won't stop him from practicing and dancing with his family.

"I'm still learning how to dance and working on my regalia," said Kline. "Being a PLP was a great opportunity for me to understand my CPN heritage better and that will help me incorporate more Potawatomi design into my regalia and dancing for next year's Family Reunion Festival."

CPN-Pottawatomie County 911 Dispatch Center complete

Unbeknownst to Pottawatomie County residents, in the late hours of October 13 a major change in the area’s 911 dispatching services went through without a single problem arising. County 911 call services were transferred from the old dispatch center in Tecumseh to the newly upgraded 911 dispatch center located inside the Citizen Potawatomi Nation Tribal Police Department.

“We had zero calls dropped,” said Citizen Potawatomi Nation Tribal Police Chief Jim Collard. “It was a perfect execution of teamwork by our people and our partner agencies. This has been a tremendous team effort and it has been a privilege to work with such a dedicated team of public servants to make this all come together.”

The move coincides with the Tribe’s funding of all county dispatching services, which was agreed upon in February 2015. Combined, all emergency response agencies using the system were being charged \$167,564 a year. Funding for the 911 system was falling short, leaving the fate of emergency services in the balance.



Dispatcher Chris Fields responds to a call at the new 911 dispatch center at the CPN Tribal Police office.

“We would still have been looking at the best way to fund the system if CPN had not made its offer,” said JR Kidney, Pottawatomie County 911 Trust chairman.

Ten former county 911 employees are now CPN Tribal employees, joining the Tribal police call center’s current roster of five dispatchers. County 911 Trust Director Tommy Arnold remains in his position.

Not counting the salaries of the 10 new employees, Citizen Potawatomi Nation spent more than \$500,000 of its own money to upgrade the county emergency communication equipment and the police department building. Improvements include three new dispatching stations and two additional stations located inside a steel-reinforced bunker. In addition to the dispatchers, the facility also houses all of the network

and radio equipment needed to keep the center running. With Shawnee and the county having two separate dispatching centers, emergency responders have options if one should go down.

“It became evident that reinforcing this building and having two systems available is critical after our experiences during the May 2013 storms. The point is duplication of services, so if the worst happens, our police and fire services always have a radio line open,” said Chief Collard.

Kidney, who in addition to his role as chairman of the trust authority is the deputy chief for the Tecumseh Police Department, said the Tribe’s funding of the service is being passed back to local agencies.

“It’s definitely putting money back in our budgets. The money we used to pay in fees can now be used in our department budgets. In Tecumseh we were paying around \$60,000 a year to use the service, and that’s now being spent in our department.”

FireLodge Tribal Youth update: December 2015

By Darin Greene, FireLodge Tribal Youth Program Coordinator

In December at the P.L.A.C.E., the “Get Native” Program involved our youth participating in the talking circle, a traditional Potawatomi practice that helps each participant learn how best to listen and respect the thoughts of others. Each youth has a chance to speak if they want to.

Participants also learn traditional Potawatomi stories and teachings, including an emphasis on speaking and reading the Potawatomi language. In cultural activities, they will also have more time to practice some traditional and newer Native American dancing and play the increasingly popular sport of stick ball. It’s an understatement to say, but the stick ball program, which is led by our cultural activities specialists Michael Logan and Coby Lehman, has been a success with the youth. The ones who have played it before are even making progress in teaching those who are new to the sport on how to survive on the field.

In other “Get Native” news, the Tribal youth will learn about the northwestern and the mid-Atlantic tribes, while the House of Hope’s Amanda Chapman will conduct a four week program focusing on conflict resolution.

While we’re also shaping minds, in order to keep healthy bodies, our “Get Fit” Program and its 30-day fitness challenge will continue to aid program participants increase their fitness. That’ll complement our Whacky Olympics competition, where the youth participate in off-the-wall competitions like non-traditional spoons and ping pong ball races.

Before we know it though, the Christmas Break Camp will be going. Judging off of past years, it’ll be another big success. We had trips to the Warren Movie Theatre, Brickopolis, Dave and Buster’s, the Jenks Aquarium and Elevation Trampoline Park.

We’ll finish up the month with a Christmas Party for the youth, where I hear there will be a visit



Sac and Fox Tribal members Marty and Lynn Thurman performed and taught Tribal youth different aspects of cultural meanings to powwow practices.

from Santa and the elves. (Yours truly might be gone during Santa’s visit, but shall return when Santa hits the road. You might even see a few elves that resemble some of our regular program participants too.) And to keep everyone in the holiday spirit, we will be treating/educating the Tribal youth on some soulful Christmas music from The

Temptations, Aretha Franklin and Al Green.

If you would like to learn more about FireLodge Tribal Youth Program or the P.L.A.C.E., please contact me at dgreene@potawatomi.org.

GATHERING OF POTAWATOMI NATIONS

HOSTED BY CITIZEN POTAWATOMI NATION IN SHAWNEE, OK - JULY 2016

TRIBAL ELECTION NOTICE

District 9 and 12 are both on the ballot for the 2016 election. Those seeking legislative seats must live within Oklahoma. Legislative seats 9 and 12 are both located in Oklahoma, but have no specific geographic limits inside the state. Therefore those wishing to challenge a specific seat must indicate which legislative position that they are running for. Only CPN members who are 18 or older as of Election Day who would like to be considered for these positions must have their declarations of candidacy in the Election Committee's hands no later than 5:00 p.m. on Wednesday, January 13, 2016. These declarations of candidacy must be filed through the U.S. Postal Service. Filing forms can be requested by writing to Hownikan@potawatomi.org. All eligible CPN voters living in Oklahoma can vote for each individual candidate in legislative seats 9 and 12.

TRIBAL ELECTIONS WILL TAKE PLACE AT THE ANNUAL FAMILY REUNION FESTIVAL ON JUNE 25, 2016, WITH ABSENTEE BALLOT REQUEST FORMS MAILED IN THE SPRING OF 2016. • ALL CPN MEMBERS NATIONWIDE WILL BE ELIGIBLE TO VOTE ON THE TRIBAL BUDGET ON ELECTION DAY.

Jim Collard appointed to International Economic Development Council Board of Directors

The Board of Directors of the International Economic Development Council has elected Jim Collard, Ph.D., to its board of directors.

"This is a great honor for me," said Collard. "With my background in economic development and planning, I have been an advocate of the IEDC's work for many years. To be appointed to the organization's board is something that is equally humbling and exciting for me, and I look forward to the next two years' work with my fellow members."

The IEDC is a non-profit organization with more than 4,600 members in the economic development sector. Its members seek to promote the economic well-being and quality of life by creating, retaining and expanding job opportunities that facilitate growth, enhance wealth and provide a stable tax base.

"As the world's leading membership organization for professionals in the field of economic development, IEDC's work has become vital to the

global economy," said IEDC Chair-elect Barry Matherly, CECD, FM, president and CEO of Greater Richmond Partnership, Inc. "It is an honor to serve on the Board and I look forward to working with Jim Collard and the other members to provide leadership and service to IEDC. We will continue to move forward in fulfilling IEDC's goal of delivering quality information, education and outstanding development opportunities to its members."

Collard currently serves as director of Planning and Economic Development for the Citizen Potawatomi Nation and on the CPN Community Development Corporation's Small Loan Review Committee. In this capacity, Collard has also played a leading role in the development of Iron Horse Industrial Park. The rail anchored industrial park, nearing a second stage of development, is also a satellite site of Oklahoma City's Foreign-Trade Zone 106 and will be a destination for foreign direct investment and an import-export center for American and international firms.



Dr. Collard presents Iron Horse Park plans to a group of individuals.

Collard is the immediate past chair of the Oklahoma Governor's International Team and current chair of IEDC's Public Policy Advisory Committee; he was recently appointed as a member of the Oklahoma District Export Council and is a past board member for the Oklahoma State Chamber of Commerce.

Previously Collard chaired the Morgan County, Colorado Economic Development Corporation and served on the executive committee of the St. Charles County, Missouri Economic Development Corporation. He has more than 25 years of experience in advancing economic development projects, focusing on community-based Fiscal Impact Tools and a Computable General Equilibrium Model. Collard has traveled extensively internationally on business and as a participant on trade missions and diplomatic delegations. He served 17 years in city management and five years as an executive in the environmental services industry.

In addition to his economic development work, Collard is also an adjunct professor at the University of Oklahoma, teaching regional and urban planning. At Citizen Potawatomi Nation, he also serves as the chief of the Tribal Police Department, a force of 28 CLEET-certified officers with five additional emergency dispatchers.

CPN Veterans report: December 2015

By Daryl Talbot, Commander

Bozho,

The CPN Veterans Organization's Color Guard and Honor Guard has had a very busy year.

- 3 January - Funeral for former Commander Joe David Melott
- 25 May - Memorial Day Ceremony at Resthaven Cemetery
- 9 June - ITEM Conference at FireLake Arena
- 14 June - Flag Day at Wanette
- 18 August - P144 National Conference in Durant
- 19 September - Tecumseh Frontier Days Parade



- 19 September - Presented colors for MMA opening ceremonies at FireLake Arena
- 8 October - Funeral at Sacred Heart
- 24 October - Sorghum Day Parade in Wewoka
- 14 November - Native American/ OSU Powwow at Stillwater

In order to increase the participation of our aging members we have included a trailer setup to carry all of our flags and CPN Veterans. We have discovered that we need to replace our flags that we used on the trailer with smaller ones. Our regular size flags were too large and they hid our members on the trailer. So, next year the crowd will see us and we will see them. The Wewoka Parade has to be

our favorite event in the year. It has the largest crowd who show extreme enthusiasm towards the veterans. It really makes us feel appreciated.

We are actively recruiting new parade and event participants for our upcoming events planned for this next year. We have a nice trailer to allow for veterans who might have limitations. We could really use your support. Join us. *Migwetch*.

Our next get together will be 8 December in the South Reunion Hall at 5 p.m. at the Potawatomi Powwow Grounds. It will be our annual Thanksgiving/Christmas Dinner.

Happy Thanksgiving and Merry Christmas from the CPN Veterans Organization.

Daryl Talbot, Commander

Wadasé Update: December 2015

By Bree Dunham,
CPN Eagle Aviary

We have nearly seen the last of the green leaves on the trees as we had our first significant frost of the season. Here in Oklahoma, we are already beginning to see migrant bald eagles coming in for the winter months. Large kettles of vultures heading south have been a regular sight above the aviary as well. Perhaps that is why Wadasé Zhabwé returned in mid-September, after an absence of nearly eight months. She may be following migrating birds as they know that the first day of winter was less than a month away.

When Wadasé left after her last week and half long visit, we wondered if it would be another eight months before we saw her again. She returned to an area that she has frequented a great deal in the past near Horseshoe Lake in Harrah. There is a possibility that those nesting bald eagles on the lake have already returned to the area. On our



Sitting in her favorite spot on the crook in the big pecan tree out front. She's watching the squirrels below her gather pecans.



Flying around the pasture, from the office door you can hear the air from her wings as she paddles hard to rise up to find a high perch

recent trip there we did spot an adult male flying above the lake and another perched near the nest. Several waterfowl have already arrived and are all around the lake and nearby recently harvested farm fields. Although, she could have returned for the food, hunting would be much easier in an area packed with literal sitting ducks. Unfortunately, one of her favorite spots on the North Canadian River, where Squirrel Creek meets the river north of the aviary, was drastically changed by the floods in May. The large cottonwood tree near the river bend was washed away when the river overflowed and the once shallow area that coots and ducks would float together by the hundreds is now a deep area full of tangled trees. Not one duck remains.

While we may never truly know what influences her decisions, we did have one question answered. Would we have to wait more than half a year to see her again? The answer would be no. On October 6, just two weeks after heading back to Harrah, she came flying in that afternoon. She landed on her crook, in the big pecan

in front of the aviary, where she sat until dusk. She arrived early the next morning as she did for the next four days. On the fifth she was gone.

Once again, she returned to the same area in Harrah. This has become a quite regular pattern. She comes in to visit for a few days and is off again. She has arrived and shown off for tours and meetings. Many times she puts on quite a display, flying all around the pasture to get a rise out of the eagles in the enclosures and then comes in to land on her perch for what would seem to be her photo op for the guests. She was also here recently during a tour of Japanese delegates and after her flight she received a traditional bow of respect and gratitude. The whole experience was quite moving. Although Wadasé has visited regularly, she doesn't always stay the same amount of days each visit. One morning she arrived and spent the majority of the day perched out front but we did not see her on the following day. However, Horseshoe Lake is only about 22 miles away, so she can easily make the trip in an afternoon.

We are curious to see where she spends the winter and what new patterns we learn from her telemetry and hopefully from seeing her as well. We feel like there is a good chance this may become her winter routine and as she approaches breeding age. If she winters here that would more than likely mean she nests here and we, of course, are keeping our fingers crossed. As always we encourage you to keep your eyes out for Wadasé if you are near the areas she frequents. To follow her movements with us you can visit www.arcgis.com/home and search for "Potawatomi eagle." Send your encounters with Wadasé or any other eagles in Oklahoma or wherever you may be to the CPN Aviary at aviary@potawatomi.org.

For more information or to read previous updates please visit www.potawatomi.org and search the site for "Wadase" or visit www.potawatomiheritage.org/#aviary for more information all of her updates can be found under the 'Eagle Visions' blog tab.



Coming in for landing on her perch.

Citizen Potawatomi Nation
BY THE NUMBERS

OKLAHOMA
LEGISLATIVE DISTRICTS 9-13

Currently 12,228 CPN
members live in Oklahoma

Tribal Rolls Scholarship
as of fall 2015: 372

Average GPA 3.3

Information provided by Citizen Potawatomi Nation Tribal Rolls

Pre-teens: 1,935 • Teenagers: 1,993
20s: 2427 • 30s: 2302 • 40s: 1,629 • 50s: 1,626
60s: 1,137 • 70s: 521 • 80s: 241 • 90s: 43 • 100+: 3

Most populated counties
Oklahoma 2,314 • Pottawatomie 2,293 • Cleveland 1,334
Tulsa 919 • Canadian 456 • Pontotoc 346 • McClain 301
Kay 234 • Lincoln 226 • Garvin 184



Tribal Chairman - John "Rocky" Barrett

Bozho Nikanek (Hello my friends)

Often times I get caught up in the challenges facing our Nation when writing these columns and forget to mention the many positive things happening for our Tribe. 2015, like most recent years at CPN, has been a year of growth and accomplishment.

The first ever HEARTH Act business, BDC Gun Room, held its grand opening in late March. The Gun Room's utilization of the HEARTH Act, which allows tribes to partner with private companies without "long-distance" regulation from the Bureau of Indian Affairs, is just the beginning in a bright future of tribe-private sector partnerships.

2015 also saw the construction and completion of numerous storm shelters for Tribal members living in the CPN jurisdiction through a partnership between the Tribe and the American Red Cross.

In June we had another round of Tribal elections, with incumbents David Barrett, Lisa Kraft and Bobbi Bowden retaining their seats. The annual Tribal budget was also approved, allowing us to continue employing more people in Pottawatomie County, Oklahoma than any other employer while providing increasing services to our members and neighboring communities.

In September, the CPN Veterans Organization organized and hosted the Vietnam Veterans Banquet, an event at which more than 100 veterans and their families attended at the Grand Casino Hotel Resort. It was an honor to attend and speak to such a brave group of men and women.

At FireLake Golf Course,

large scale renovations are ongoing as we finish up the construction of the new club house. In addition to that, which should be completed in the coming months, our course staff have been upgrading infrastructure – from bridges to irrigation – around the course.

In McLoud, FireLake Express Grocery is nearing its opening date, providing our members and neighboring communities in the northwest part of the county a grocery store like our already successful operations in Tecumseh and FireLake.

October saw the completion of a service that will benefit all of Pottawatomie County, regardless of race, location or circumstance. The Tribal Police Department is now home to the Pottawatomie County 911 Dispatching Center, providing the county two separate call centers in case of an emergency. Agencies across the county are using the system free of charge, allowing money to flow directly back to first responders. The Tribe spent \$500,000 in renovations of the building and radio infrastructure before counting the 10 additional employees and dispatchers now working as Tribal employees. In the end, this was a great opportunity to help those who help when the worst happens, and it is a benefit for anyone in the county when they have an emergency.

In October we finalized an agreement with Saint Gregory's University for a



The McLoud FireLake Express Grocery and gas station is nearing completion.

\$5 million prepaid tuition program to provide full scholarships to CPN members in the coming years, as well as college credit for internships at Tribal operations.

Our Fry Bread Taco and Pizza enterprises have now each been open one year and as has Flame Brazilian Steakhouse. Grand Casino recently opened another new restaurant, Soto Sushi, which we expect will do well. Iron Horse Industrial park will begin laying rail soon and we hope to have our first tenant in the spring. We'll also be working to have the Cultural Heritage Center reopened in time for Potawatomi Gathering of Nations in July.

Overall our Tribe has a \$540 million economic impact in Oklahoma. We paid \$28.9 million in taxes and payment in lieu of taxes, while contributing more than \$2.2 million to local community organizations.

These numbers aren't just

figures on a paper. They're proof that what tribes, and more specifically CPN, bring to this state are vital and important everybody. It's because of this we're able to give a high school student their first job at the grocery store, or provide excellent health care to an individual who would otherwise be using services at a local, non-tribal clinic.

I write to you in this season of cherishing our friends and families to tell you that the CPN is as strong as ever, providing what it can for the good of our Tribal members and neighboring communities. Keep those thoughts with you as we move forward into the New Year. Have a Merry Christmas!

Thank you for the privilege of serving as your Tribal Chairman.

Migwetch,

John Rocky Barrett,
Keweoge
(He leads them home)
Tribal Chairman



The FireLake Golf Course Clubhouse should be open in early 2016.

SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE ON YOUR LIST!

LOCATED INSIDE THE CPN CULTURAL HERITAGE CENTER

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Vice-Chairman - Linda Capps

In this holiday season, I hope all is well with you and your families, friends and loved ones.

2015 has been an exciting year at CPN, as if there

were any other kind. We've had Tribal elections, great education agreements with our partners at Saint Gregory's University and are now home to Pottawatomie County 911's dispatch center at the Tribal police headquarters.

In 2016, we will not only host our annual Family Reunion Festival, but also the Potawatomi Gathering of Nations in the last weekend of July.

In the hustle and bustle of the months after attend-

ing the Gathering of the Potawatomi Nations this year, I neglected to mention that the chairman and I visited a District 5 area meeting in Denver with Legislator Gene Lambert. It was an excellent opportunity for us to visit our Potawatomi living in or near the Mile High State, and I've included a few photos of those who were honored for travelling the furthest, being the youngest and having the most wisdom.



D5 Legislator Gene Lambert of Mesa, Arizona, Ebanee Rose Moyer of Pueblo, Colorado and Areta Blooding-Laird of Eads, Colorado.



Bruno family member Nancy Tarter traveled the longest distance from Layton, Utah.



DeGraff family member and youngest present was two year old Harper Finley Cunningham with her mother Brandy Marie of Castle Rock, Colorado.



Shayln Laird of Greeley, Colorado and Robert Melot of Palisade, Colorado.



Eldest is Wilbur Luthye, age 90 of Lakewood, Colorado.

I'd also like to brag on the person who is responsible for this very newspaper, our website www.potawatomi.org and a host of other responsibilities that have improved CPN's outreach in recent years. Our director of public information, Jennifer Bell, was recently named a "Native American 40 under 40" award recipient by the National Center for American Indian Enter-

prise Development.

This prestigious award is bestowed upon individuals under the age of 40, nominated by members of their communities, who have demonstrated leadership, initiative, and dedication and made significant contributions in business and their community. I personally nominated Jennifer because of her efforts in reshaping the public in-

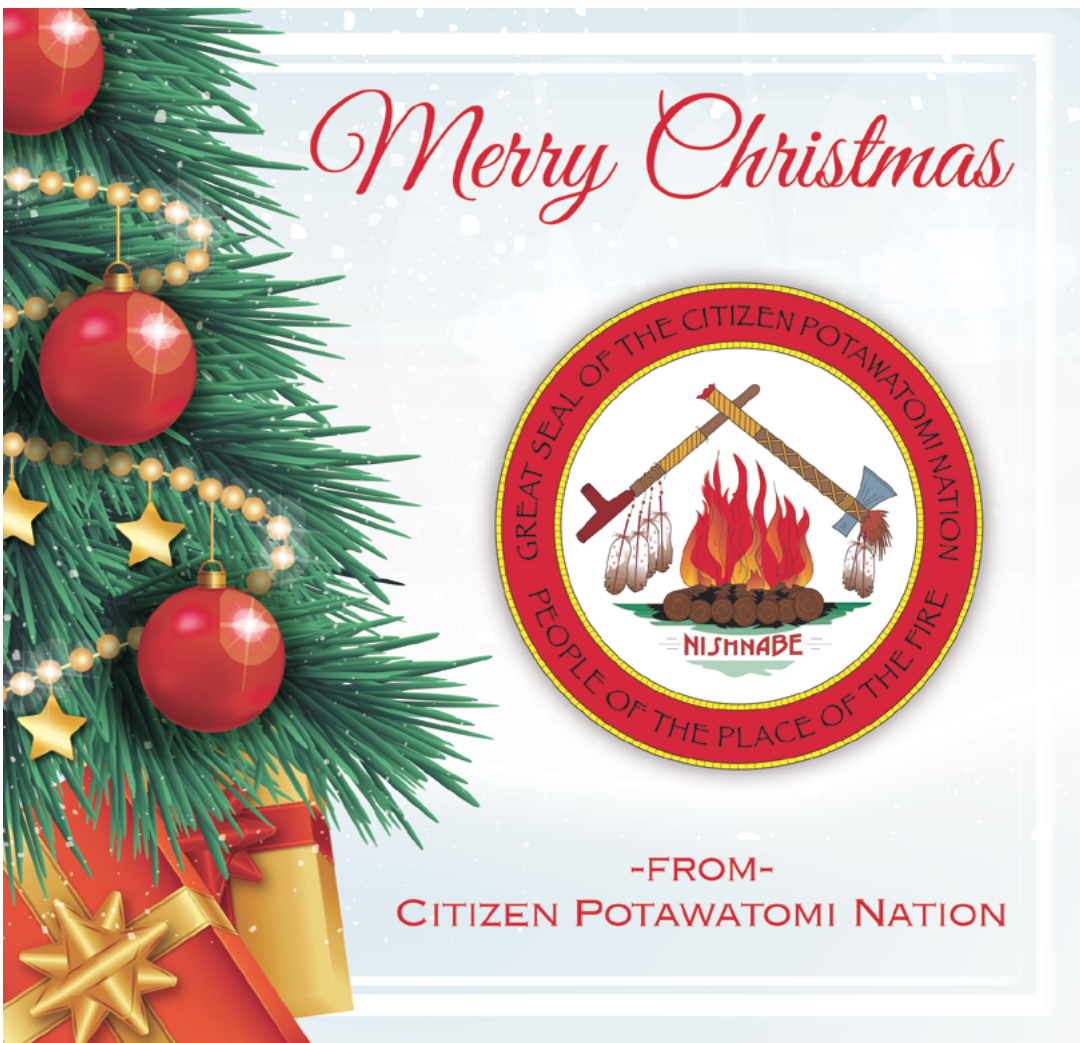
formation department in recent years. Once responsible for our newspaper only, she and the team she has built post daily articles on the website, runs more than a dozen of our program and Tribal enterprise social media channels, and produces almost every photo and video seen on a CPN website. Jennifer herself participates in many marketing and public affairs duties for CPN

and its businesses. This is likely just one accolade in a long career for this Ogee-family member, and we are very proud to have her as a part of our team.

Linda Capps
Vice Chairman
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Jennifer Bell



Eagle feather requests

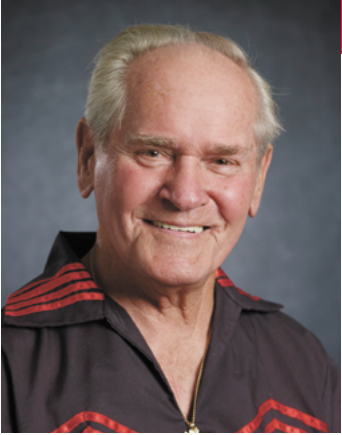


Many of you have submitted eagle feather requests and have not received your feathers. We are asking that you please have patience with the aviary. There presently are over 100 requests that need to be filled. Molting of the eagle feathers is extremely slow this time of year. Meanwhile, the demand continues to grow. I know that many of you have had orders pending for some time, but I assure you that our staff

is filling the requests as quickly as possible. The administration and aviary staff may need to explore options so the requests can be filled in a more timely manner.

If you would like to learn a bit more about the eagle feather's significance to us as Potawatomi or how to take care of a feather you already may be in possession of, visit this page cpn.news/feather.

- Linda Capps



District 1 - Roy Slavin

His native name was “Wa tho huk” (“Path Lit by Flash of Lightening,” or more simply “Bright Path.”)

Sports writers and broadcasters named him the greatest athlete of the first half of the twentieth century. He was inducted in the Pro Football Hall of Fame in 1963.

season tickets for 28 years, but am now content to watch them on television.

Before I close this article, I would like to mention a CPN program that deserves recognition. It is the PLP or Potawatomi Leadership Program. Tribal members who are 18-20 years of age are selected for the six week program based on academic qualification. Arriving one week before the annual Family Reunion Festival, students spend their days visiting Tribal directors and employees who explain their roles in the Tribe’s day-to-day business. Between departmental sessions, students tour Tribal enterprises and attend board meetings. In the evening and on weekends students connect culturally by attending language classes, participating in Tribal ceremonies and learning traditional crafts. Additionally, students who have not yet received their Potawatomi name will have an opportunity to do so. As potential leaders of the tribe, students not only learn how the tribe operates, but also undergo extensive leadership

Also at the dinner was Tyler Bray, the Chiefs’ next quarterback (I hope) and James Winchester (Choctaw) their long snapper. I had met Tyler previously at the Chiefs’ training camp in St. Joseph. I knew he was a CPN member and mentioned to him that I was a CPN legislator and that he is in my district. He then showed me a tattoo he has on his left shoulder. It was the CPN logo. Tyler is 6’6”, 215 lbs., proud of his heritage and can definitely throw the deep pass. He played his college ball at Tennessee.

Bill Thorpe, son of Jim Thorpe, attended the game and took part in the pre-game show. As you may have guessed, I am a long time Chiefs fan. I had

Bozho nikan,

On October 25 I attended a dinner along with my wife, Julia, and District 4 Representative Jon Boursaw at the American Indian Center of the Great Plains. This was on a Friday prior to the Kansas City Chiefs’ game on Sunday honoring American Indian Heritage Month. During the dinner there was a great video presentation by author Robert W. Wheeler who wrote the book “Jim Thorpe: World’s Greatest Athlete”. Thorpe was so named by King Gustav V of Sweden.

Jim Thorpe’s father was Irish and Sac and Fox; his Potawatomi mother was a descendant of Louis Vieux.



District 4 Legislator Jon Boursaw, Bill Thorpe and Roy Slavin at Arrowhead Stadium.

training. Participants receive a weekly stipend of \$60 as well as \$1,680 upon completion of the program. To learn more about this great program go to plp.potawatomi.org.

As always, I will end this article with a plea for your contact information. If you do not receive e-mail or snail mail from me it is because I do not have your information and due to privacy issues the

Nation cannot supply me with your information.

I can be reached at:
6730 NW Tower Drive
Kansas City, MO. 64151
Toll free 1-888-741-5767
Rslavin@potawatomi.org

Migwetch for allowing me to serve as your representative.

Netagtege (Roy)



District 2 - Eva Marie Carney

ly, and on my website (www.evamariecarney.com, under the ‘Photos’ tab).

Menomen/Wild Rice: I will contribute a *menomen*/wild rice dish to the feast and, in line with our hereditary love for *menomen*, won’t expect leftovers! As Shee Shee ban ee yuk (duck people) our ancestors navigated the Northern waterways – where food grew on water – and harvested wild rice. As noted on our Cultural Heritage website www.potawatomiheritage.org, “Potawatomi referred to the transition from *niben* (summer) to *dgwaget* (fall) as *Mnomnekégises* (Ricing Moon). Throughout Ricing Moon, domesticated and wild plants began to bear fruit, motivating Potawatomi and other *Neshnabek* (Indian people) to migrate to their annual *menomen* camps for harvest.

Considered a primary food staple, it was extensively traded among Algonquin tribes and foreign merchants. Aside from diet, *menomen* was used medicinally and spiritually in various ceremonies, as its therapeutic value aided in the remedy of burns, heart and stomach ailments.”

The wild rice I used for the recipe came from Wisconsin and was harvested by today’s Ojibwa people. This could be a nice traditional addition to your holiday table.

Menomen/Wild Rice with mushrooms and almonds (serves 6-8)

- 1 cup *menomen*/wild rice/ ¼ cup butter/ ½ cup slivered almonds/ 2 tablespoons snipped chives/8 ounces fresh mushrooms, cut in pieces/ 3 cups chicken broth
- Wash and drain *menomen*/wild rice. Preheat oven to 325 degrees F. Melt butter in large skillet. Add rice, almonds, chives and mushrooms. Cook, stirring often, until almonds are golden brown, about 20 minutes. Pour rice mixture into ungreased 1 ½ quart casserole. Heat chicken broth to boiling and stir into rice mixture. Cover tightly. Bake about 1 ½ hours or until all liquid is absorbed and rice is tender and fluffs.

White House Native Nations Conference: It was a privilege again to represent the Nation at the annual White House Conference on November 5, 2015. I count this as one



President Obama in an armchair conversation with Native youth.

of the many benefits of living in the Washington D.C. area – I’m grateful that the Chairman has authorized me to attend this particular conference (only one representative per tribe is invited). This year there was a strong focus on youth, with quite a few, all impressive Native young people in attendance. The conference ended, in fact, with an armchair discussion hosted by the lovely Jude Schimmel (of college basketball fame, with her sister Shonni) during which the young participants posed questions to President Obama and all engaged in a lively and meaningful dialogue.

The president’s remarks and the youth panel with him can be viewed online via the White House website at cpn.news/WH11512. I hope you’ll take a look. Much of the conference focused on the strides made in our Trust relationship over the last seven plus years and on how to make those strides permanent while keeping up momentum. I have

posted quite a few pictures to Facebook, available here: cpn.news/WH1512, and include a couple with this column.

Don’t forget to claim your holiday gift: If you would like a copy of the Potawatomi Winter Stories booklet I’m putting together for an end of year mailing, please contact me with your USPS mailing address. Please note that you don’t have to live in District 2 to receive the gift, you just need to ask and provide your mailing address.

Migwetch/thank you for the great honor of representing you.

Legislator Eva Marie Carney
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Legislator Eva Marie Carney posing in front of the CPN flag at the White House.



Bozho Jayek
(Hello everyone)

October was a very busy month involving Tribal business for me. One week was spent where I represented CPN at the National Congress of American Indians. I attended many meetings on a variety of topics. These dealt with violence to women, drugs in adults and youth, water rights, sovereignty, and grants to name just a few. The information gained has been passed on to staff for follow up where appropriate. This conference was hosted by the Sycuan Band of the Kumeyaay Nation. We were entertained by the men of this nation using gourd shakers rather than a drum for ceremonial purposes. Each male creates and decorates their own gourd shaker. The women had a unique way of dancing in concert with the song the men were singing. In their dance they basically stay almost in place, and turn clockwise 180 degrees and thrust their arms out in front of them. I enjoy going to

District 3 - Bob Whistler

conferences and gatherings because it allows me to see how other nations' cultures vary from ours. The Sycuan Band of the Kumeyaay Nation are a federally recognized tribe of the Mission Indians from El Cajon, a suburb east of San Diego.

On the Saturday following the NCAI conference, we held the north Texas area meeting in Lewisville. A short power point presentation was given. It highlighted the benefits available to Tribal members who reside outside of Oklahoma, and reviewed the kinds of crafts that can be learned at Family Festival and/or the Gathering. I took several drums and a bow that I made at the last Gathering as examples of those crafts. We will be hosting both in 2016 and we are looking forward to having many of our Tribal members attend both events. Family Festival will be held the last weekend in June. The Gathering will be held the last weekend of July. At the Lewisville meeting we recognized our eldest and wisest, Marjorie Hobdy, with a beautiful Pendleton blanket. Kati Lewis came in from the farthest distance, Midland, Texas and was recognized with a backpack that contained a Pendleton portfolio. Kati Lewis is the daughter of Margorie Hobdy. The youngest was recognized with a

Pendleton saddle blanket. It was presented to two year old Audra Reiser. She is the granddaughter of Susan Zucker who is holding her for the presentation. Audra and her four year old brother Robert had a great time trying out the two drums. I have included several photos of a number of those in attendance at the meeting.

The last event that I attended was in Muskogee, Oklahoma. CPN was a sponsor for the one hundred and thirty fifth anniversary of the founding of Bacone College. The college was founded in 1880 and is the oldest Native American college in the United States. Representative David Barrett and I represented the Nation and accepted sponsorship recognition on CPN's behalf. The college presented us the book, "Marking The Jesus Road: Bacone College Through the Years" by author Russell M. Lawson. This book has been delivered to the Nation and will be entered into our library at the Cultural Heritage Center for future reading. Bacone is one of the Native American colleges in Oklahoma. Many of you have heard of Haskell Indian Nations University, but may not have heard of Bacone College. One interesting fact that was brought to my attention at this event, is that in the United States, there are only two types of art that are not an evolution of European art. These two are Santa Fe and Bacone. Santa Fe art deals primarily with the traditions of the Native American tribes in New Mexico and Arizona. The Bacone School of Art was formally started in 1935 and has continuously been directed by a Native American. This art is based upon the traditions of the Native Americans from the woodlands and plains. Bacone is a liberal arts college offering a variety of degrees dealing specifically with American Indian topics. Some of you may wish to consider this



Furthest travelled Kati Lewis from Midland, Texas.



Youngest attendee Audra Reiser, age two with grandmother Susan Zucker.



Wisest in Lewisville, Marjorie Hobdy.

college as an option for your advanced education. The CPN scholarship program may be used for those attending this college.

2015 has been a very challenging year for the Nation. Our executive branch has done a commendable job in all the areas they oversee and handle. I am honored to be associated with them and the Nation. I am proud that you have allowed me to represent you. As the year winds down and you find yourself traveling, please be careful, and ask the Creator to look over and protect you and your

family. I look forward to seeing many of you in 2016.

Mno gishget Jesus ga nigit mine mno weponget (Merry Christmas and Happy New Year)

Bob Whistler *Bmashi*
(He soars)

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Hownikan

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District 4 - Jon Boursaw

Holiday Greetings: Peggy and I would like to sincerely wish you and your family a very merry Christmas and a happy New Year. We hope that your holiday season is safe and only filled with joy and happiness. 2015 was a very active and rewarding year for me and I look forward to 2016 with great anticipation and enthusiasm as I continue to foster the awareness of the history and presence of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation in Kansas and my endeavor to connect with CPN members across the state.

New Tribal member stars on the gridiron: Tucker Horak continues to accumu-

late astonishing numbers as he leads the unbeaten Ross-ville Bulldogs towards their second consecutive Class 3A State Championship. The 2014 State Champion Bulldogs next game will be in the quarterfinal bracket of the 2015 playoffs. In two of his last three games Tucker gained over 500 yards in total offense against previously unbeaten teams and well over 400 yards in the other game. Tucker's CPN enrollment was approved at the last meeting of the CPN Legislature.

Let me know: If you know of similar accomplishments or achievements by our young Tribal members please send that information on to me so I can include them in my future columns. This includes all areas of student activities.

Recent district meeting: I recently held a meeting in Wichita and was extremely pleased that Jennifer Randell and Bree Dunham from the CPN Eagle Aviary could join



Bree Dunham, Myanabe and Jon Boursaw.

us. They were able to bring Myanabe, a golden eagle, to the meeting. They also gave a brief presentation about the creation and operation of the aviary. As I have told several members, Jennifer and Bree turned an otherwise mundane meeting into an event.

E-mail addresses: Recently I have sent out several e-mails. If you are not receiving my e-mails either I do not have your e-mail address or what I have en-

tered is incorrect or has been changed. If you would like to be added to my e-mail list simply send me an e-mail at jon.boursaw@potawatomi.org.

Support our Tribal member-owned businesses: CPN Member Tim Paslay and his wife, Suzie, own the Hobby Depot located in the Barrington Village Shopping Center in Topeka, Kansas. He has new and used model trains in a variety of scales

along with car, airplane and ship models. He carries five different paint lines and scenery supplies for making your project look great. Stop in and introduce yourself to Tim at 5628 SW 29th St Topeka, KS 66614 or call him at 785-271-4451. He can be found on Facebook at Hobby Depot Inc.

Finally, it has been a pleasure to serve as your legislative representative this past year and I am looking forward to the coming year.

Migwetch,
Jon Boursaw, *Wetase Mkoh*
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District 5 - Gene Lambert

what is in your heart and heritage. Isn't it interesting that since the Trail of Death your family line had to be registered by each generation and through those generations here we are now at 32,000 Tribal members.

That isn't an accident. It is led by our Creator who keeps the earth's people and spirit together in the way they should be. Saying we are not Indian because we are too white is just one more way to keep us apart from each other. Someone is taller, shorter, rich, poor, educated, uneducated, black, white, red, and yellow, belongs to the right church, on and on.

I remember hearing someone from another community say "she is only half and I am full blood Indian." (Who really knows?).

"She should not get as much per capita as I do."

You see it happen in families when one walks on as to who should get the most and why. Wow!

We have a responsibility to ourselves, each other and mother earth commanded by our Creator to love, honor and respect all living things.

Am I 100 percent active in this knowledge? No, but I am working every day to be better at it and to wash away all old prejudices and see each person with the right to be here and acknowledged

because the creator says so. It is a constant work in progress. I can only hope to be better today than I was yesterday.

We are linked together like a chain, truly linked! What happens to one affects us all, consequently there is no one better than...just a different expression of their being.

We each have a different purpose which is said, "you will know by the wanting of your heart and the acceptance of the masses."

Some have a cause to protect animals, others worry about our children, we all worry about our own children. I am talking about a specific cause in general. Still yet we have the earth protectors, the fire keepers, and the spirit walkers. All have value in and of itself. If it isn't your calling respect those it is. Keep the respect level in knowing you have a different purpose and just as important. It is like a puzzle. Each piece makes up the whole picture. It doesn't have to be the same picture to be beautiful. Sounds like the flower children out of San Francisco in the 1960s. However, it is still true.

Imagine for a moment that we all had the same goals, wants, needs, purpose and no one ever disagreed. What do you think we would have? Puppets...boring...stagnation!

This brings about change and

with change comes growth.

The world didn't come to an end when they allowed women to vote. It didn't stop turning when they allowed Native Americans to vote. We were the first to vote in a white election as I understand it. Equal opportunity in the workplace was quite a hassle as I recall. While the pendulum may swing to the extreme right or left temporarily it always comes back to the middle, meaning acceptance of the new.

Water seeks its own level. We have visionaries who see the future quite differently than I for sure, thank God for them as I have reached an age where I wish it would stay the same. I am technologically challenged. I would just as soon have a pad and pencil because that is what I am comfortable with. We don't learn anything in our comfort zone. We don't learn anything when all goes our way. We learn only through struggles, difficulty, and the times when you are not sure you can. That is how and when we grow. That is when the old answers don't work anymore and you are forced to come up with new.

I tell people in difficult times to put your mind on finding the answer, don't mull over and over the problem. It just gets bigger. Your mind will research all the data you have given it. That's like the story of the young brave asking his grandfather about

people. Grandfather shared with him the idea that two wolves reside in each of us. The grandson stunned with the idea asks, "How do you know which is stronger or will win out?"

The answer from the elder was, "It depends on which one you feed."

There is the true answer and can be said a million different ways but does not change the concept. This isn't limited to individuals rather applies to the Citizen Potawatomi Nation, its businesses, its members and in thought as well. We too are changing and growing. We are the Citizen Potawatomi Nation and we have strong heritage, leadership, growth, change and with you a strong future. We are "The Keepers of the Fire."

Perhaps you want to know more. If that is so between now and January 1, read more about the Seven Fires Prophecy. "You can google it". (I know I get tired of hearing that too)

There is too much there to do it justice in an article.

Prepare for beautiful holidays, a fruitful new year and acknowledge the spirit in each person you meet.

Thank you for all you do.

Your legislator,

Gene (Eunice Imogene Lambert) District 5

Today I would like to talk about who you are...who we are.

We hear Chairman John "Rocky" Barrett talk about it at every meeting.

I know I used to wonder, and I have had others tell me I am not an Indian.

I am too white and I didn't grow up on a reservation.

As the Chairman says you cannot be part-Indian! You either are or you are not. It isn't just about having it passed down because your parents were.

It is about where the heart is.

We are the only two legged creatures on the planet required to have a number. Chairman says when the Blue Coats glanced at each of our forefathers passing by decided; you are full blood, you are half; you might be a quarter Indian.

You cannot be an arm or a leg as Chairman commands continuously. You are Potawatomi and that is as good as it gets. You decide



Bozho nikanek

Hello Friends,

December is a great time for our Tribal members graduating from high school in June 2016 to finalize their plans for attending college. I would like to encourage our members to consider the educational opportunity that is available to our members in Shawnee through the

District 7 - Mark Johnson

pre-paid tuition fund at St. Gregory's University, in the Citizen Potawatomi Nation Tribal Development Scholarship Program. All Tribal members are eligible for the program, which covers tuition, room-and-board and meal plan expenses for both undergraduate and graduate residential programs at St. Gregory's University. Student expenses are limited to some fees and textbooks costs. For further information contact the Higher Education Coordinator Tesia Zientek by email at tesia.zientek@potawatomi.org or by sending inquiries to college@potawatomi.org.

The deadline for the normal spring - winter scholarship applications was December

1. Summer session applications and paperwork are due June 1, 2016, while fall 2016 semester applications are due next August 1, 2016. For full time students, up to \$1,500 is available, and for part-time students up to \$750 is available. Also remember that students who receive a Tribal scholarship are also eligible to receive \$675 for the fall and spring semesters from the Student Housing Assistance Program to assist with living expenses.

I would also like to encourage any high school seniors in District 7 to apply for the Potawatomi Leadership Program held in Shawnee each summer. Applications are due by May 1 of each

year and can be downloaded from the Nation's website. It is a wonderful program to give a leg up to our Nation's future leaders, and give you a great insight into the inner workings of tribe and our cultural history, for more information or to apply at plp.potawatomi.org Education of our members guarantees our future as a nation and we would like to recognize our members of District 7 who graduate from college, please email the following information to graduation@potawatomi.org for inclusion in future editions.

- Name:
- Hometown City/State:
- Potawatomi Family Name:
- School or institution:

• Degree:

Once again I would like to say what an honor and privilege it is to serve you as your District 7 representative. As always give me a call and I will be happy to work with you on any questions you may have, or provide you with additional information you may need to access tribal benefits that you are entitled to.

Migwetch / Thank You,
Mark Johnson / *Wisk Mtek*
(Strong as a Tree)
Representative, District 7
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Bozho, Nikanek

Next weekend, November 14, 2015 we had our Fall Feast in Seattle. We gathered in the Duwamish Long House, which is a unique and beautiful facility.

The Longhouse is a traditional cedar post and beam structure designed in the

District 8 - Dave Carney

Puget Salish Longhouse style as collaboration between the Duwamish Tribe and project architect Byron Barnes, a member of the Blackfeet Tribe in Montana. The Longhouse, in ancient times, was the site where tribal business was conducted and cultural and educational events were held. It seems an appropriate location for our gathering.

We had a packed agenda for the evening. We had our usual CPN Native American Art contest, awards for honoring our wisest member present, the youngest member present and the member furthest traveled.

Additionally, several members make presentations:

- Lydia Davison presented on the Potawatomi Leadership Program (PLP).
- Two members did back to back presentations on their founding families: Sandhi Burke for the Ogees and Ginger Blackmon for the Bourassas. These two families were picked this year to represent the 45 founding families.

If other families would like to tell their stories at future events they will be encouraged.

After a full turkey dinner,

we made medicine bags for members to wear. Members were encouraged to bring a canned food item for a local food bank donation.

This was our fifth Fall Feast. Last year, the event was held in Portland and it is my plan to alternate between the two cities as they have the largest member population and attendance of about 100. I'll have plenty of pictures taken for the next issue of the *Hownikan*.

As we enter into the Christmas season I'd like to wish members in District 8 and around the country a blessed holiday, whatever your faith. Let's be focused on

our families and spiritual reflection and stay away from the malls as much as possible, and buy local to support your communities.

Thank you for the honor of representing you,

Dave Carney,
Kagashgi (Raven)
www.dave-carney.com
dcarney@potawatomi.org



The ties that bind

Is your wife, husband, or child a more active Citizen Potawatomi than you are? Do your loved ones get more excited than you do about traveling to district meetings or Festival weekend in Shawnee? Do they remind you to vote? Do they read the Tribal newspaper before you get a chance? Perhaps they know more

District 11 - Lisa Kraft

Potawatomi words than you do. If so, I think these are amazing actions.

Several people come to mind when I ask myself these questions. Some of the most important people in our lives are the parents and grandparents, the aunts and uncles, and the cousins of Citizen Potawatomi, yet they may not all be enrolled Tribal members.

These family members have just as much pride as we do in being part of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation. We walk through life together and are taught by each other how to be stronger families and better people.

My Aunt Phyllis (O'Con-

nor) passed away on October 18, 2015. Despite her tiny frame, she was a larger than life character and two-time breast cancer warrior/survivor who loved her big Citizen Potawatomi family with everything she was. My heart grieves for my Uncle Jerry and cousins Jason and Melisa and their children. My Aunt Phyllis can be described in so many positive and memorable ways, but to my sister and me, she proved that water could be as thick as blood. My aunt was not a tribal member, but she was my Aunt Phyllis for almost 50 years.

What I am thinking about today is how people in our lives, like my aunt, are often the ones that bring us clos-

er to family and our Citizen Potawatomi kin. They may say and do all the right things to encourage us to be closer to family (particularly, children of divorced parents). They may know the genealogy and family history better than we do. They may be political and personal sounding boards giving us clarity and purpose. And, they may even be our local eyes and ears of our Tribe, challenging us to remain active and steadfast in carrying on Citizen Potawatomi family traditions, like activism, volunteerism and politics.

To all of these valuable people, I say thank you. I want you to know that all of your legislators see you, your family, and your con-

tributions. In memory of my Aunt Phyllis, I will forever remember her as one of those ties that bind me to my own Citizen Potawatomi family.

As always,
I am thinking Potawatomi.

Lisa Kraft (*Zibikwe*)
Oklahoma Tribal Legislator
District 11 - Statewide)
Lisa@CopperBearConsulting.com

Get the *Hownikan* via email!

If you would like your newspaper via email, please email your name and address to hownikan@potawatomi.org and let us know.

Dorothy Mae Roush



Dorothy Mae Roush died peacefully of natural causes on Sept. 26, 2015, at Alaska Regional Hospital. She was 74 years old. Dorothy, born July 24, 1941, in Anthem, Oklahoma, moved to Anchorage, Alaska, in August 1972. Upon moving to Anchorage, Dorothy was hired at Carousel Child Care Center, where she worked for forty years. She loved her job, and was even thought of as "grandma" to many of the children. Although not active in church, Dorothy held a very strong faith in The Lord.

Her family writes "Loving mother, grandmother and great-grandmother. Mom could not reach heaven until she left this earth. We will all be together again. Love mom/grannie with all our hearts - gone but never forgotten."

Dorothy is survived by her daughters: Joyce Thompkins and Pamela Roush; her son: Devon Roush; granddaughters: Desiree Thompkins and Brittany Anderson; and great-grandson: Jeremiah Graper. She was preceded in death by her husband: Cleo Joe Roush; and her parents: Lucy and George Johnson.

Dorothy's celebration of life was held on Saturday, October 3, 2015 at Carousel Child Care Center, Anchorage, Alaska with Diana Peterson officiating.

James Russell Peddicord



Jim passed away peacefully on July 20, 2015 at the age of 96. Jim was born to Russell and Ida Peddicord in Wamego, Kansas on February 28, 1919 and was raised on a farm with three sisters and several cousins.

He graduated from Kansas State University. While there he met and

married Evelyn Fuller, a Kansas farm girl. Jim taught agriculture in Little River and Fredonia, Kansas. Son, James Neil was born in 1943 followed the next year by daughter Nancy Anne.

In 1954, Jim answered an ad for teaching in Gardnerville, Nevada. Jim taught vocational agriculture at Douglas County High School until 1966. Jim then served as State of Nevada Director of Vocational Agriculture Education until he retired in 1979.

Jim and Evelyn were avid bridge players. He loved to fish, hunt and trap varmints. He enjoyed gardening on a large scale. He was also a member of the Carson Valley Lions Club for over 50 years and was Lion of the Year in 2001-2002.

Jim is survived by his son: Neil (Cheryl) of Gardnerville; daughter: Nancy Bruce (Bradley) of Big Timber, Montana; 3 grandchildren; 5 great-grandkids; and 2 great-great-grandkids. Jim was preceded in death by his wife: Evelyn; sister: Nita; and grandchild: Michael.

A memorial service was held on September 5 at Carson Valley United Methodist Church in Gardnerville, Nevada.

Paige Bonde Lucas



Paige Bonde Lucas died peacefully in her sleep at home in Lake Stevens, Washington on October 20, 2015, at 52.

Paige is survived by her parents: Arthur Bonde OD and Shirley Bonde of Boise, Idaho; husband: Larry Lucas and daughter: Cheyenne Lake Stevens of Washington; sisters: Toni and Claire Bonde of Alameda, California, Nicole and Steve Collins of Boise, Idaho; brother in law: Dave and Kim Lucas of Deer Park, Washington; many aunts, uncles, cousins, nieces and nephews.

Paige was born on September 1, 1963 in Rupert, Idaho. She graduated from Caldwell High School in 1983. Paige married Larry on May 31, 1985. They had their beautiful daughter, Cheyenne, on May 25, 1993 after moving to Everett, Washington. They moved to Lake Stevens in 1996.

Paige worked as a teen advocate in Snohomish County for many years. She helped so many troubled teens during that time as few could. It was one of her deepest life callings. Paige's love for animals, especially dogs, was incredible. She rescued so many and would have taken them all in if she could.

Paige made lifelong friends, as she had such a great spirit of love and

kindness. She was so witty and always could make you smile and laugh until you were in tears.

Paige suffered for years with fibromyalgia and the medications she needed to keep her out of pain weakened her heart and organs. When she fell ill suddenly, her body did not have the strength to fight back. She is out of pain and in peace with her many friends and relatives that have gone before her.

Paige was so deeply loved and will be desperately missed.

A celebration of Paige's life was held on Wednesday, October 28, 2015 at Schaefer-Shipman, Funeral Home in Marysville, Washington. Condolences can be posted at www.schaefer-shipmanfuneral.com. A service will be held in Idaho and announced at a later date.

Paul Raymond Toupin



Paul Toupin, 78, of Turlock, was born in Santa Monica, California to Raymond and Belle Toupin, one of four children. He attended schools in Norwalk and graduated from Excelsior High School in 1954 and received a BA in Business Administration from California State Stanislaus in 1981. He went into the Air Force at 17. Two years later he returned to Norwalk to marry his high school sweetheart, Wyamah Lindley. Paul attended Cornell University language school in New York where he was a gifted linguist, learning six languages where he graduated number one in each class.

He served with the US Embassies in Germany twice, Turkey twice, and in Poland, Thailand, and several locations in the United States with top security rating for a total of 20 years. He and his family moved back to serve in Washington D.C. in 1969 and retired in 1974. They then moved back to California.

Early in his military career Paul volunteered for "Jump School." He made 66 jumps from an airplane and later joined the San Bernardino Deputy Sheriffs Rescue Squad, jumping often, and assisted in rescues in dangerous situations by jumping.

While living in Poland, Paul rescued a child from a river and was touted as a hero by a Polish newspaper. This made for good relations with America! Paul's family members are true-blooded patriots and he recently said that he would go back and serve again if the need arose.

Paul was also an athletic official for many sports for over 55 years. He was passionate about this. Over the years, he officiated football, basketball, volley and fast pitch, all mostly at the high school levels. Many people remember him and have remarked how his calls were usually right – even if they didn't agree!

Paul was preceded in death by his parents and two sisters Jackie (Toupin) Kronberg and Hilma (Toupin) Bishop. He is survived by his loving wife of 59 years, Wyamah Toupin of Turlock, his 4 children: Cheryl (David) Sorrento (Potawatomi name: Wich MNedo Kwe) of Phoenix, Arizona, Renee (Michael) Swiggum of Normal, Illinois, Michelle Baughan of Turlock, and Cynthia (fiance' Tony Kiaunis) Toupin of Turlock, one sister Alice (Toupin) Vandermeer, and six adoring grandchildren and many devoted nieces and nephews.

Paul was very proud of his Potawatomi heritage and spoke of it often. He was a direct descendant of Amable and Mary Mack Toupin's only son, also named Paul. He loved researching it and passing it on to his children. We now honor our father as he passes into the arms of his Creator and his ancestors.

A Funeral Prayer

Hau ndenwémagnek
Ho my relatives

Ébyé yak shote gnom
We have come here today

Éwi nesh myé yak ode wdenwéma
To lay our brother to rest

Ngom she épam sét ode
Today he walks

Ga wje zhyé wat gi gambojek
Among those who have passed on

I yé i ébgednoyak ode ngemwen
That is why we offer this song

Émno shketot wa je zhyat ibe shpemsegok
That his journey will go well where he goes above

Iw énaj moyan
That's all I have to say

A Potawatomi prayer for a specific loved one who has walked on. By Don Perrot



Margaret Kathryn Clark



Margaret Kathryn Clark, 91, of Edmond, Oklahoma, passed away September 24, 2015.

Born on August 13, 1924, in Barnsdall, Oklahoma, she was the oldest of seven children born to DeWitt and Ruby Smith.

Margaret graduated from Northeast High School, Oklahoma City, in 1943 and began working at Tinker Field in civilian personnel.

She married her beloved husband, Elba Clark, on November 16, 1946. She was a loving mother, grandmother, sister, aunt and friend.

Margaret was a member of Millwood Baptist Church for most of her life and most recently, a member of Waterloo Road Baptist Church.

She was preceded in death by her husband: Elba Lee Clark; sister: Beverly Taylor; and brothers: Bob and J.D. Smith.

She is survived by her children: David and Jacque Clark, Steven and Cindy Clark, Dennis and Carla Clark, and Donna and David Murrah; grandchildren: Lorri Clark Kamphaus, Brian Clark, Sharon Clark, Jonathan Murrah, Kaitlyn Murrah Harrison, Michael Watt, and Matthew Watt; great-grandchildren: Michael, Austin, Jacob, Christian, Chayce, Austin, Dakota, Isaac, and Serena; sister: Shirley Collins; brothers: Leroy and Gary Smith; and a host of other family and friends.

Funeral Services were held at Quail Springs Baptist Church on Tuesday, September 29, 2015, with interment at Memorial Park Cemetery.

Kirk J. Richardson



Kirk J. Richardson, 53, transitioned from his life on Earth, Tuesday September 8, 2015. He was born August 2, 1962 in Topeka, Kansas. Kirk

married Eric Kaberline on November 17, 2014. He graduated from Shawnee Heights High School and Bryan Career College. Kirk was an entrepreneur and had been self-employed for 28 years. He had an immense love for animals, especially his dogs Barbie, Bo, Goldie, Faith and Casey. Kirk belonged to the Citizen Potawatomi Nation Tribe and was very proud of his native culture and heritage. Kirk enjoyed continuing learning the native traditions and beliefs. He enjoyed getting together with his friends at least once a week, sharing his experience, strength and hope. Kirk was preceded in death by his father, Halleck Richardson, Sr., on November 10, 2003.

Kirk leaves behind his loving husband of 28 years, Eric Kaberline, in addition to his mother Joan Pahmahmie Richardson and his siblings Helen Hamilton, Gary Gonzales (Barbara), Hal Richardson, Jr., (Cathy), Steven Richardson (Susan), Valerie Thompson (Scott), and Kelly Pahmahmie. Kirk is also survived by what he considered to be his second family, in-laws Ed and Margaret Kaberline, Mike Kaberline (Bill), Jim Kaberline (Lori), and Brian Kaberline (Traci). Many nieces and nephews will miss their Uncle Kirk, along with numerous cousins and friends.

The funeral service was held on September 16, 2015 at Penwell-Gabel Mid-Town Chapel. Those who wish to honor Kirk may make a memorial contribution to Helping Hands Humane Society of Topeka, 5720 SW 21st St, Topeka, KS 66604. To leave a message for the family online, visit www.PenwellGabelTopeka.com Kirk J. Richardson.

Brett R. Kime



Brett R. Kime, 36, of Longview, Texas passed peacefully in his sleep and went to be with his Lord and Savior on Monday, September 14, 2015.

Brett was born June 10, 1979 in Amarillo, Texas to William "Joe" Kime and Susan Wright Kime. He ob-

tained his Certification in Welding at Bakersfield Jr. College, Bakersfield, California in 2002. Brett attended Snyder High School in Snyder, Texas. Brett loved his family, friends, and extended family. He enjoyed sports, reading and cooking.

He was preceded in death by the love of his life: Melissa Green Kime; sister: Jennifer Kime; grandparents: Frank and Jewel Wright; step-father: Wayne Key; grandfathers: J. D. Dodson and Hershel Kime; great-grandmothers: Ruby Wright and Daisy Cleek; great-grandfather: Mac Cleek.

Survivors include his sons: Clayton Kime and Luke Kime of Indian Trail, North Carolina; parents: Susan Wright Key also of Indian Trail and Joe Kime of Shawnee, Oklahoma; grandmother: Jane Dodson of Richland Hills, Texas; numerous aunts, uncles, cousins and friends.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that memorials be made to KOZ Memorial Group, Memorial Baptist Church, 873 Pee Dee Avenue, Norwood, North Carolina 28128. KOZ (Kids Outdoor Zone) is an Outdoor Adventure Ministry that provides boys with mentors and direction to become Godly adults.

A memorial service was held at St. Mary's Chapel in Charlotte, North Carolina on October 17, 2015.

William E. "Sonny" Howell, Sr.



William E. "Sonny" Howell, Sr., age 78, of Shawnee, passed away Monday, October 5, 2015 in Shawnee.

He was born July 16, 1937 in Avoca, Oklahoma to Samuel Edward and Margaret (Curly) Howell.

Sonny was raised in the Sacred Heart area. He moved to Wyoming as a teenager and returned to the Seminole area where he worked in the oilfield until his retirement.

He married Linda Slater, and she preceded him in death on June 5, 2009.

As a child Sonny served as an altar boy for the Sacred Heart Mission.

He served in the U.S. Army and was stationed in Germany.

Sonny drove a tanker truck for Tiger Trucks in Seminole for many years and worked in the oilfield for 50 plus years.

He loved watching his grandkids play ball and enjoyed spending time with family and friends.

He was preceded in death by his wife, his parents, and his sister: Naomi Kay Venable.

Those left to cherish his memory are his daughters: Johnnie Mae Howell of Las Vegas, Nevada, Wynema Sue and Clyde Simpson of Shawnee, Nita Howell of Ada, Alisha Howell of Konawa, Sheila Howell of Seminole, Shelly and Theodore Watson, Jr. of Bethel Acres, and Mary Howell of Konawa; sons: Sammy and Rachael Howell of Pink, William "Dub" and May West Howell, Jr. of Tecumseh, Danny and Cecilia Howell of Konawa, Tommy and Catherine Howell of Ringling; many grandchildren and great grandchildren; sisters: Betty Mason of Seminole, Shirley Deatherage of Shawnee, and Katherine Leshner of Noble; mother of his children: Betty Jean King of Konawa; many other family and friends.

Pallbearers were William Howell III, Bill E. Hobia III, Josh Howell, Edmond Howell, Quannah Neniakita, Jake Carbitcher, Monroe Carbitcher, Sonny Howell, Brandon Carbitcher and Raymond Shell. Honorary Pallbearers will be Sonny's sons.

Funeral services were held on Thursday, October 8, 2015 at Sacred Heart Mission, Konawa, Oklahoma, with Reverend Adrian Vorderlandwehr OSB officiating. Burial followed at Sacred Heart Cemetery under the direction of Cooper Funeral Home of Tecumseh.

Submitting obituaries

To submit an obituary, please send a word document with no more than 300 words, a 300dpi photo and a contact phone number to hownikan@potawatomi.org.

CPN burial assistance through Tribal Rolls

The \$2,000 CPN Burial Assistance Fund is automatically available to all enrolled CPN members. You may fill out a burial assistance fund form if you would like for us to keep it on file in case of any change in resolutions.

Please note: Once a CPN Tribal member has passed, the Tribal Rolls office must

be notified in order for CPN to provide burial funding. Information and instructions for the burial process will be sent to the next of kin and will be discussed then.

For more information please call Tribal Rolls at 405-878-5835 or email CClark@Potawatomi.org.